

Entinration.



**A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.**

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

CHEMISTS

BY APPOINTMENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE
GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.

Watson's HYGIENOL, AND BUBONIC PLAGUE!

It has been proved by repeated experiments that "WATSON'S HYGIENOL" is the most potent agent for the destruction of fleas, especially rat fleas.

It has now been proved that Plague is conveyed to human beings by means of fleas from rats which have died of this disease.

All risk of infection can be avoided by washing the floors, etc., or sprinkling where the fleas are likely to be with a dilute solution of "WATSON'S HYGIENOL." A teaspoonful to a pint of water, or a teacupful to three gallons, makes a solution of the strength required for this purpose.

HYGIENOL IS A POWERFUL DISINFECTANT AND GERMICIDE

Price per Pint.....50 cents
" " Gallon\$1.00

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED,
HONGKONG DISPENSARY
AND
KOWLOON DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1900. (2)

BIRTH.
On April 17, 1909, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. C. HEISCH, a son. (Carl Friedrich.)

MARRIAGE.
BENSON-WHITTLES.—At the Peak Church Hongkong, on 23rd April, by the Rev. Mr. F. T. Johnson, WILLIAM, eldest son of John Little Benson, Esq., of Glen, Bollin Ringway, Cheshire, to Gladys May (Queenie), eldest daughter of Alfred Whittles, Esq., Cornsneydale Hale, Cheshire. [36]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1900.

NAVAL WARFARE OF THE FUTURE.

A highly interesting and important declaration with regard to the rules governing the naval warfare of the future was issued from the Foreign Office last month in the form of the results of the International Naval Conference held in London from December, 1908, to February last. The most instructive document in the book, apart from the actual declaration, is that wherein the British delegates—the Earl of Desart, Rear-Admiral Sir C. Oatley, Rear-Admiral E. J. W. Slade, and Mr. Eyre Crowe and Mr. C. J. B. Hurst, at the Foreign Office—explained the scope and effect of the provisions. According to the summary drawn up by the *Morning Leader*, we learn that the delegates go through the items in the terms of reference and describe the results obtained with respect to each. The Powers represented at the Conference were Great Britain, the United States, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Russia, the Netherlands, and Japan. With regard to the subject of blockade the 21 articles constituting the first chapter of the declaration contain a body of rules, the British delegates state, which substantially correspond to the practice of this country as upheld by the decisions of British prize courts. The vexed question of the distance from the blockaded coast at which vessels attempting to break blockade may be captured has been solved by restricting the geographical limit within which capture is authorized to the area of operations of the blockading forces. The non-applicability of the doctrine of continuous voyage to cases of blockade-running has been unanimously recognized by Article 20 of the Declaration. On the subject of contraband the delegates report that they obtained the Conference's acceptance of a list of "conditional" contraband, and further, "have secured the adoption of a free list which will place it beyond the power of belligerents in future to treat as contraband the raw materials of some of the most important of our national

industries. We have succeeded in including substantially all the items suggested by the Committee on the Free List, and the Committee of Trade, and we trust that the free list now constituted will afford a welcome guarantee of security to valuable branches of British commerce." To obtain the advantages of these free lists, some concession had to be made to the Powers which have hitherto refused to recognise the doctrine of continuous voyage. A compromise was effected. It was agreed that the doctrine of continuous voyage should be maintained as regards absolute, but given up as regards conditional contraband. The question of the condemnation or penalty on a ship carrying contraband to the extent of less than half the cargo resulted in an agreement that the case would be sufficiently met by the general adoption of the British practice, whereby the ship may be condemned in the amount of expenses incurred by the capture on account of the proceedings in court and the custody of the ship. On the subject of the removal of passengers from neutral vessels when they are suspected, it is explained that the Conference found that the interests of men would best be served by allowing a belligerent to remove from a neutral ship, and make prisoners of war, any persons found on board that actually embodied in the armed forces of the enemy. A neutral vessel which has been captured may not be destroyed by the captor, unless she must be taken into a port for the determining of the validity of the capture. Such a prize can be destroyed only under "exceptional necessity," and the captor must pay full compensation should he fail to prove to the satisfaction of the prize court the existence of exceptional circumstances. A number of rules are laid down with regard to the transfer of merchant vessels from a belligerent to a neutral flag. Their effect is to distinguish between that preceding and that following the outbreak of hostilities. The general principle laid down is that *bona fide* transfers are valid, whether effected in one period or the other. The burden of proof is differently distributed: it falls on the belligerent in respect of transfers made before the outbreak of war and on the neutral in respect of transfers made subsequently. With regard to resistance to search an article has been included in the declaration providing a definite rule as to the liability of a neutral vessel which resists the enforcement of the belligerent's right of visitation. It has been agreed that forcible resistance on the part of a neutral vessel exposes her to all the natural consequences of an armed conflict, including the risk of being sunk on the spot. If she is not sunk but captured, she will be liable to condemnation in a prize court, while the cargo will be treated as if it were embarked on an enemy's ship. The general principle is established that where a neutral vessel has been seized and brought in, compensation is due to the owners of vessel and cargo if the prize court finds that the seizure was not justified. The declaration states that it shall be ratified as soon as possible. In the event of any of the Powers wishing to denounce it, "such denunciation can only be made to take effect at the end of a period of ten years, beginning 60 days after the first deposit of ratifications, and, after that time, at the end of successive periods of six years, of which the first will begin at the end of the period of ten years."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

In connection with the Japan Sugar Company scandal twelve members of parliament have been arrested up to 18th inst.

MR. TAN SHIE-PO informs us that Mr. TAN Hoo Chh, comrade to Messrs. Bradley & Co, did not take a leading part in organizing the excursion to Heungchow.

THE Chinese Commercial Attaché in Vladivostok has telegraphed to the Waiwups informing it of the scarcity of salt in that port and requesting that the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce be asked to import Chinese salt there to create for it a demand in that market.

H.E. YEN Chih, Imperial Agent at Urga, has informed the Waiwups by telegram that the Russians have hosted troops at the Yilo river region on the plea of protecting their own merchants. They have also attempted to interfere in the local administration, and H.E. Yen, therefore, requests the Ministry to protest to the Russian Minister at Urcu.

THE directors of the Maanschappij tot Mijn Bosch-En Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat L state that, according to a telegram received from Langkat, hole No. 94, on the Darat field has been opened up and proved to be an exceptionally productive well. Further information regarding this matter will be issued to shareholders by circular as soon as possible.

THE N. C. D. News Kweilchowfu (Szechuan correspondent writes that, in spite of Imperial mandate to cease poppy cultivation this year, the prefect and sub-prefect issued an order permitting a crop to be grown this year. Nature, however, has put a stop to this, as the poppy crop in this prefecture is, according to a good authority, withered and destroyed, on account of the spell heat and the dry winds prevailing during the last two months. Now the rain has fallen it is too late for the poppy seedlings to revive. The wheat crop looks promising.—A French naval officer is surveying the river in front of our city in preparation for the coming of the new French gunboat which is expected soon from Shanghai for the upper river.

**HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE.**

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce was held this afternoon in the City Hall, for the following purposes:—To receive the report and accounts of the committee for the year ending 31st December, 1908; to elect a new committee; and to transact any general business. The Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt presided. There were also present:—Messrs. D. R. Law, A. Babbington, J. W. Bindow, E. Shullin, H. E. Tomkins, J. W. C. Bonnar, H. A. Sipka (Committee), E. A. M. Williams (secretary), B. P. White, A. D. Couland, C. Wolding, F. Paget Heit, C. G. Gok, J. Owen Hughes, C. H. Row, S. D. Seina, F. C. Mou Fung, Van den Bosch, W. J. Bailly, E. G. Garrett, S. Silverstone, C. S. Gubbay and S. H. Michael.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, we will, with your permission, take them as read. As you will have observed from the published correspondence now before you, the committee have had an unusually busy year, having been called upon to consider and deal with a large number of important questions. I will now refer to those which appear to deserve special mention, as briefly as possible. For a considerable number of years this Chamber has urged upon the Government the need for increased protection for small craft in the harbour. The Causeway Bay shelter having for some time past proved inadequate for the purpose. The question has again been brought prominently forward and considerable discussion of the subject has taken place during the past twelve months. As you will remember at the time of the torado of 18th September, 1906, which resulted in such heavy loss to the small craft in the harbour, H.E. Sir M. Nathan promised that any funds raised by public subscription in the Colony for the relief of the sufferers from the storm would be doubled by the Government. So generously, however, was our appeal for aid responded to by all nationalities trading here, that the subscription not only fully met all claims upon the fund but left a surplus of some \$35,000 which was handed over to the Government to be used, so far as the fund would last, for the relief of sufferers under similar catastrophes. The Colony's subscriptions, therefore, not having been drawn up, the Relief Committee suggested that the Government contributions which otherwise would have been devoted to the typhoon fund should be used as a nucleus towards the construction of a new typhoon refuge for small craft. The sum at which the Colony was pledged by Sir M. Nathan amounted to close upon \$280,000. The question has, as you are aware, not reached that stage when we hope that before many years are past this refuge, so urgently needed in the general welfare of the Colony, be an accomplished fact. The question of the cost, however, and the means by which the necessary funds were to be raised, have led to considerable discussion with the Government. The original estimate was about \$600,000. Each succeeding calculation increased this sum until this was nearly trebled, the latest figure being considerably over 1 million dollars. In order to raise this sum the Government proposed to pay half out of current revenue, and the other half by a special tax on shipping. The reasons for this proposal are fully set forth by His Excellency the Governor in a very lucid memorandum, dated 8th May, 1908, which is included in our report. I need hardly say that the arguments put forward in this memorandum do not, by any means, mesh with the support of the shipping companies and the memorandum from their representatives enclosed with a letter to this Chamber dated 23rd June last, appears to show very clearly that his Excellency's reasons are fallacious and if acted upon are directly opposed to the real interests of the Colony. It would, in our opinion, be a very great mistake were the Government to look upon shipping as the mitch-co which is to supply so much of the loss of revenue experienced in other directions, and to furnish funds for great public works which are required in the interests of the Colony as a whole, and not in that of the shipping only, but this is unfortunately a fact which we have entertained since the reconstruction of the Government. It is quite true that when a typhoon approaches this Colony considerable delay, and consequently pecuniary loss, is incurred by such shipping as happens to be in port at the moment, but it has apparently been entirely overlooked that the bulk of the small craft do not directly employed by the shipping companies. It is on the contrary used more largely by merchants, property owners, and the usual classes of wholesalers and retail dealers which go to form the bulk of the business section of the Colony. This, I think, can be demonstrated by any one who cares to go down the Praya, in an average working day, and make inquiry as to the purpose for which junk and native boat on the water frontage being used, and by whom engaged. It will be found that a very small proportion on is engaged by shipping firms. Our contention is that the refuge is for the benefit of the Colony as a whole, not particularly for the benefit of shipping, and under these circumstances the funds needed for the refuge should be provided out of general taxation towards which the shipping and shipowners fully contribute in light dues, license and other fees, and taxes on their shore properties. I view unfortunately does not appeal to the Government who, as I have already stated, appear to believe that because individual charges are not to their mind high, it is quite immaterial how these taxes are piled up.

FREE ON LIGHTERS

License fees on lighters have recently been very largely advanced; a demand was made for quarantine station and immediately it was proposed that all sorts of expenses in this connection, amounts which would be incurred in

interests of the Colony, should be put upon the ship-owners. This last proposal, I am glad to say, has been dropped, as the committee of the Chamber has been able to convince the Government that this last proposed exaction was unreasonable, and opposed to the system which obtains in other ports.

SHIPPING DECENTRALIZATION.

As I have previously stated on more than one occasion, Hongkong owes its position as one of the leading shipping ports of the world, entirely to its geographical position. It is within the memory of many of us when practically the whole of the Far Eastern trade centred in some 3 ports in Japan, 3 in China, and in Hongkong, ocean-going steamers rarely calling at other ports. The consequence was that an enormous trade centred in these ports, collected by coasting vessels which acted as feeders to the Ocean Lines. This tendency for concentration is, however, largely disappearing. Of late years shipowners have shown an increasing readiness to send their ocean steamers to other ports and this is, year by year, becoming more marked. Europeans now load steamers direct for Europe or America at ports whose names were hardly known to the outside world a few years ago, or which then did not even exist; and with the increased facilities for direct trade, which, with the development of railways in China and other improvements which are constantly offering, this tendency to decentralization must increase. The movement cannot but be encouraged if the Government of Hongkong persists in what cannot but describe as a suicidal policy of increasing the taxes on shipping when they should on the other hand be doing all in their power to attract shipping to the port instead of driving it away. I have spoken, Gentlemen, at considerable length on this point not because I wish to urge the interests of any one section of our trade, as, apart altogether from such special interests as we may, individually, represent, I speak here, as I always do under similar conditions, in what I sincerely believe to be the true interests of the Colony as a whole, and it is only because of the special knowledge my business gives me of this side of the question, that I consider it my duty as your Chairman to utter a most earnest word warning to the Government against what cannot but consider a line of policy which, if persisted in, must in the long run react very seriously against the prosperity of the Colony.

PRIVATE MOORING.

In my address last year, I referred to the Government proposal that the use of all moorings in the harbour should be placed in the hands of the Harbour Master. It was hoped that the Government would have accepted the reasons against this scheme which had been put forward by them, but unfortunately this was not the case, and further correspondence has passed between the Chamber and the Colonial Secretary which is now published in our report. We are still in an unpleasant state of uncertainty as to whether the Government mean in the end, endeavour to force upon us what we cannot but look upon as an entirely unnecessary and vexatious piece of legislation.

TRADE MARKS REGISTRATION.

The question of the registration of trade marks has, as you will see, also, received the attention of the committee, who have informed the Government that in their opinion compulsory registration of trade marks in the United Kingdom should not be insisted upon as one of the conditions under which trade marks can be registered in the Colony; and in order that the Home Government may be in a position to protect British trade marks in the Far East. A view in which I trust the members of the Chamber concur. We understand that the whole question as to the protection of British trade marks is now seriously engaging the attention of the Foreign Office, and we trust that the principle of the right conferred by *de jure* usage of a trade mark will be accepted by H. M. Government.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

The important question of the reform of China's currency has, during the past year, been advanced another stage by the issue of an Imperial Edict ordering the Provincial Authorities to take the necessary steps to introduce a standard silver coinage for use throughout the Empire. This question is, of course, of the utmost importance both to China and all engaged in trade with her, and it is to be hoped the terms of the Edict will be carried out with as little delay as may be necessary.

ATTEMPTED OPIUM MONOPOLY.

During the period under review another attempt has been made by the Authorities of the Provinces of the Two Kwang to establish what would practically have amounted to a monopoly for the sale of raw and prepared opium. The British firms in Hongkong interested in this trade, represented the matter to the Chamber, who strongly supported them in the view taken, viz., that if the proposed regulations for further control over the opium were brought into force, this would be a direct violation of the treaties. For the moment, owing to the representations made by the Consul-General at Canton, the Chinese authorities made no further move, but the British Minister at Peking at first took the view that the contemplated regulations did not amount to the establishment of a monopoly and consequently did not amount to a breach of the treaties. After considerable further correspondence with the Hongkong Government and the British Legation at Peking, an assurance was, however, given by the Waiwupu that the contemplated regulations would apply to native opium only. So far this is satisfactory, but as I have had occasion to point out on previous occasions, it is only by constant vigilance on the part of foreign merchants and the Chambers of Commerce, that these repeated attempts on the part of Chinese officials, to illegally interfere with foreign trade can be checked. The whole history of our Chamber is one long record of such fights.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

It is satisfactory to be able to refer to the proposed Canton-Hankow railway with the assurance that the Chamber has been able to

of the railway system, which we hope, before long will link our Colony with Europe. It is, however, very much to be regretted, that such slow progress is being made with the extension of the line from Canton to Hankow. This is a matter of utmost importance to this Colony and such influence as may be possessed; both by the British Government and the business community of this Colony, should be directed towards encouraging, and where possible, helping on, the completion of this much needed work, on terms satisfactory to the communities interested, as well as the investing public.

CHINESE SEAMEN.

Another question of great importance to the local shipping of this Colony has been raised by the Board of Trade, which is, whether seamen engaged on board British ships possess a sufficient knowledge of English to understand orders given them. This regulation was not to apply to British subjects, and a further question therefore arose, as to whether Chinese seamen belonging to Hongkong could produce certificates of place of birth thus entitling them to this exemption. Your Excellency the Governor held the opinion that such a regulation is not feasible, a view which was strongly endorsed by this committee, as it appeared to us if the proposal of the Board of Trade were acted upon it would result in putting an end to all Coasting and River trade under the British flag in this part of the world.

CLOSING OF OPIUM DIVANS.

One of the most momentous questions which has of recent years been raised in connection with this Colony, is that relating to the closing of the opium divans in order of the Home Government. The whole question has recently been so thoroughly dealt with in the Legislative Council, and by the local Press, that it is unnecessary for me to here go into details, but in order to place on record among the Chamber of Commerce papers for the use of future members, the more recent contributions to this discussion, we have considered it advisable to print as an annex to our report the two valuable documents bearing on the question which have recently been laid on the table before the Legislative Council. I refer to Mr. Clementi's memorandum of 12th June, 1908, and that of His Excellency Sir F. Lugard, dated 18th October, 1908. So much sentiment and partisanship has been unfortunately permitted to enter into the whole question of the opium trade with China that it is not easy to obtain clear and unbiased statements in the matter. Those, however, are to be found in the memoranda. I have just referred to and I am sure all the members of the Chamber of Commerce will agree that we are greatly indebted to His Excellency and Mr. Clementi for such valuable additions to the history of the opium question and for the clear manner in which they have helped to demonstrate how greatly exaggerated are many of the extreme statements which have from time to time been made with regard to the opium trade and the effect the use of the drug has on the Chinese nation as a whole. Once we are convinced in the Chinese Government and the Provincial officials are really anxious to curtail, if they cannot altogether suppress their share of the bargain, we must perform our part, but I think we are probably agreed that the action of the Home Government as to the arbitrary closing of the opium divans in Hongkong, which was at first ordered of them without reference being made in the first place to the public opinion of the Colony, as usual under such circumstances, was an abuse of the position held by the Government towards a Crown Colony. We trust therefore that the Chamber will approve of the protest made by the committee against this arbitrary proceeding. We saw distinct danger in the giving up of the control of public opium smoking, while it appeared problematic that the closing of the divans would result in any appreciable decrease in the quantity of opium consumed in the Colony. The Secretary of State for the Colonies has recently assured us that "the suggestion that His Majesty's Government had acted with indifference to the views and interests of the inhabitants of Hongkong is entirely erroneous," but we do feel that in the matter the true interests of the Colony have indeed been sacrificed to the political needs of the Home Government. We considered we were justified in making the strongest possible protest against a hasty policy such as was shadowed by the first instructions on the subject.

In this connection, to show we had reason for our apprehension, I would point out that the whole tenor of the debate in the House of Commons on the 6th May last distinctly pointed to an immediate closing of all the divans in Hongkong. This was unquestionably the impression we received here, and appears to have been that conveyed to those present at the debate. More than one honourable member referred to this, while one supporter of the Government stated that "he gathered from the Under-Secretary of State that opium was immediately going in Ceylon and Hongkong and they were in sight of the same as regards the Straits Settlements." Colonel Seely did not correct this view, nor did the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who closed the debate on behalf of the Government. Reference having been made in the earlier part of the debate to the closing of opium divans in certain Chinese cities by the Imperial Government, Colonel Seely stated that the day previous to the following telegram had been despatched to the Governor of Hongkong:—"H. M. Government must have decided that steps must be taken to close opium dens in Hongkong as they recognise that it is essential in dealing with the opium question in Hongkong that we must act up to the standard set by the Chinese Government." That the Under-Secretary went on to add, in *desultory* addition, as you are aware the resolutions which were ultimately passed by the House of Commons was to the effect that "H. M. Government intend to bring to a speedy close the system of licensing opium dens now prevailing in Hongkong." *Colonel Seely* then said, "I am sure the Government will not be satisfied until they have taken steps to close the opium dens in Hongkong."

Geelong, the Straits Settlements, and Ceylon. In view of the above it is difficult to understand why the Secretary of State for the Colonies should have considered it necessary to animadvert upon the protest made by unofficial members of the Council, as they had merely taken the Home Government at their word. It is, however, satisfactory to be able to record that H. M. Government has so far realized the hardship caused to this Colony as to promise to ask Parliament to give a substantial contribution towards making good to the Colony the direct loss of revenue resulting from measures adopted under their instructions. It now remains with this community as a body to see that full and adequate compensation be accorded, the more so as we have already, as pointed out by his Excellency, suffered heavily through the action of the people at Home.

LAICHIKOK QUARANTINE STATION.

Another matter which has engaged the attention of your Committee is the proposed regulations for the working of the new quarantine station at Laichikok. Here again the Government attempted to unduly tax shipping, by endeavouring to make the shipowner bear certain expenses in connection with the establishment which we considered should be a charge on the general revenue of the Colony. After some correspondence it was decided to adopt a similar system of charges on shipping as usually obtaining in the neighbouring ports.

JAPANESE YARN LOTTERY.

It is a cause for much regret that during the past year we have again been called upon to deal with the question of the issue of lottery tickets in connection with the sale of Japanese cotton yarn. The system is to our mind most pernicious one, not only from a true business point of view, but as also being opposed to the gambling laws of our country and we trust that the attitude taken by the British authorities and the representation made on the subject will put a stop to this scheme once and for all.

REUTER'S POLITICAL TELEGRAMS.

As you are all aware the arrangement by which the Chamber of Commerce had received and circulated Reuter's political telegrams came to an end last autumn, after having been in force for upward of 30 years. The Committee much regret being obliged to take this step but the financial position of the Chamber did not justify our continuing the service at loss.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

There are various other matters of considerable interest dealt with in our report but I will not detain you unduly by touching upon them all. There is, however, one more to which I think I should refer. That is the all important one of military training as raised by Sir Henry Berkeley in his letter of 16th July last. It has for many centuries past been an axiom among some of the most vigorous peoples of the world that all the youth of the country should learn to ride, and to shoot, and to speak the truth. We accept it without question that our young men do speak the truth. Hongkong can hardly be called an ideal place in which to learn to ride, but there are excellent opportunities for learning to shoot, and I can only express the hope that the younger section of the community, realising their duty towards the Empire, will take advantage of the very liberal provision made by the Government for the Volunteers and will show their appreciation of this and a proper sense of duty by all-going through an efficient course of training in the ranks of the Volunteer force, so that should it unhappily occur that services were ever required they could feel that they were prepared at a moment's notice to serve their country as all men should be able to do. I have just been reminded by the mention of the date in the notice that to-day, the 23rd April, is the name-day of our Patron, Saint-Saint George of England. It is possible that there was some present here to whom the name of St. David and St. Patrick, or even that of St. Andrew, may appeal with great force, but appealing as the representative, the Senior Patron, it appears to me that the remarks I have just made should have special significance through being made on such a date. For I would remind you St. George, for many years been accepted as the Patron saint of soldiers—the embodiment of heroic patriotism.

ACCOUNTS.

Turning to the accounts, the financial position of the Chamber can hardly be considered satisfactory, as for the past two years our expenditure has very considerably exceeded our revenue. This matter is receiving our careful consideration and we trust that by adopting certain changes in the working of the office, considerably reduce our expenditure. It is more than probable, however, that at the end of the current year the Committee may find advisable to recommend to the Chamber raise the subscription which was reduced in 1867.

COMMITTEES.

Several changes have, as you know, taken place during the year in our Committee. We have to regret the untimely death of our colleague, Mr. Broderick, and the return home after many years' service of our old friend Mr. Siebs. Mr. C. Wood, who has also served for considerable time in our Committee, has resigned on his leaving the East. We have also Mr. H. Kerwick. To all these gentlemen the Chamber is much indebted for good work done in the interests of the Colony (Applause).

The Chairman at the conclusion of his speech referred in laudatory terms to the death of the late Mr. Geo. Murray Balg, after which he proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. H. P. White, in seconding the motion congratulated the Committee on the work of the past year.

The following gentlemen were then elected to the new Committee on the motion of Mr. E. G. Barrett, seconded by Mr. O. H. Ross: Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Messrs. A. Robinson, J. W. C. Bonnar, J. W. Baxendale, D. Law, H. A. Slabs, C. Shellin, and H. Tomkins.

The following new members were elected on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. D. M. Law: The Hon. Mr. J. C. O'Leary, C. J. O'Leary, and Mr. P. P. O'Leary.

THE NEW AND OLD MEMBERS.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

CANTON VICEROY'S DILEMMA.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

H.E. Chang Jen-chun, Viceroy of Canton, has wired to the Waiwupu to the effect that, in the matter of the delimitation of the boundary of Macao, owing to an ambiguous term employed by a former Viceroy in his despatch to the Governor of Macao, he is somewhat in a dilemma.

At the time when the official communication was drafted and despatched, Wen Tsung-yao (now Junior Amban in Tibet) was present in Canton.

His Excellency Chang urges that H.E. Wen should be asked to return to Canton in order to settle the doubt.

KWANG SU'S FUNERAL.

RECEPTION OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

The cost of the reception of the representatives of the Foreign Powers at the forthcoming funeral of the late Emperor Kwang Su is estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand taels.

ATMS SMUGGLING.

THE ARREST OF FOREIGNERS.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

The Ministry of War has issued instructions to all provinces to the effect that, in the event of any foreigner being found and arrested while engaged in the clandestine trade of arms-smuggling into the interior, he is to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty without reference to his Consul.

CONFERENCE IN PEKING.

LATE EMPEROR'S IDEA REVIVED.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

The idea of holding conferences in front of the Palace would have been carried into effect had it not been for the illness and subsequent death of the late Emperor Kwang Su.

The Prince Regent has now decided to give effect to it as soon as the funeral ceremony of the late Emperor is over.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

CHINESE SUBJECTS IN ANNAM.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

The Governor-General of Indo-China categorically denies that Chinese residents have been subjected to harsh treatment in any way.

The Waiwupu is, nevertheless, determined to depute an official to Annam to conduct investigations into the truth or otherwise of the report.

NAVAL REORGANISATION.

THE LATEST PLAN.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

In the scheme of Naval Reorganisation the duties will be divided between Prince Su, Duke Tsai, Tieh Liang, and Admiral Sah.

Prince Su will attend to the drafting of a code of regulations. Duke Tsai will be entrusted with the raising of funds. Tieh Liang will devote his attention to organisation and discipline. Admiral Sah will have the control of the training of naval cadets and supervise the remodelling of the arsenal in Shanghai (Kiangnan) and Fookien (Fochow).

ADMIRALTY PLANS.

On the 10th instant, the Navy Commissioners, Prince Su, Duke Tsai, President Tieh Liang and Admiral Sah reported to the Prince Regent the plans which they have drawn up for the reorganisation of the Navy. It is stated that Admiral Sah will proceed to Great Britain, the United States, and Japan to study the constitution of the Admiralty in those three countries.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

MOSQUITOS IN SHANGHAI.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL'S CAMPAIGN.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 22nd April, 4.10 p.m.

The Municipal Council is starting a campaign for the extermination of mosquitos in the settlement.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

ALLEGATION OF INSUBORDINATION.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Shanghai, 22nd April, 4.10 p.m.

A serious quarrel has arisen between the Shanghai Taotai and the Governor of Soochow.

The latter has denounced the Taotai for insubordination and for alleged negligence in the disbursement of public funds.

MONGOLIA AND TIBET.

A NEW DEPARTMENT.

[By courtesy of the "Sheung Po."]

Peking, 22nd April.

It is proposed by the Grand Council to create a department for the administration of affairs in Mongolia and Tibet with H.E. Tang Shao-yi as High Commissioner.

THE LATE MR. GEO. MURRAY BAIN.

THE FUNERAL.

Yesterday afternoon, the mortal remains of the late Mr. Geo. Murray Bain were laid to rest in the presence of grief-stricken relatives and a large number of sorrowing friends. To testify to the high esteem in which the deceased was held throughout his long career in the Colony for his sterling character, a large portion of the Colony's commercial community turned out to pay their last respects to the memory of the deceased. The funeral cortege was met at the Monument by a large number of those who had known the deceased in his life-time and followed the procession to the cemetery.

Among those seen at the graveside were Mrs. G. H. Edwards and Mr. Horace Bain (chief mourners), Hon. Mr. F. A. May, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Hon. Mr. A. M. Thomson, Mr. A. A. Aitken, Mr. A. Shenton Hooper, Dr. J. M. Aitken, Messrs. C. McL. Messer, A. Chapman, G. Grimble, E. J. Hughes, H. N. Mody, G. P. Lammert, J. A. Jupp, A. O'D. Gourdin, H. P. White, W. Armstrong, R. Shewan, David Wood, J. I. Andrews, H. F. Campbell, C. J. Lafrentz, F. Maitland, J. M. Beck, T. Grant Smith, A. Findlay Smith, J. Nicholson, W. Humphreys, A. C. Moore, G. J. B. Sayer, Dr. I. Thomson, Messrs. D. Clarke, G. Percy, J. W. Bolles, C. Kinck, R. H. J. Craig, E. M. Hazeland, J. F. Boulton, and representatives of the Press.

The wreaths sent were both beautiful and numerous, names of leading members of the community being among the rest.

N. Y. K. AFFAIRS.

EFFECT OF THE CHINESE BOYCOTT.

Rumours have been rife for some time that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has sustained a loss of ¥1,500,000 during the latter half of the last business year as the result of the boycott in China, as well as of the general dullness of the shipping trade.

Mr. Iwanaga, a Director of the Company, when interviewed, stated that the Company sustained a loss of ¥500,000 during the past year owing to the boycott, but the greater part of the loss belonged to the accounts of the first half of the last business year, and it had already been accounted for as explained at the general meeting of the shareholders of the Company held in November. The rumour that the Company sustained a loss of ¥1,500,000 is consequently unfounded.

As to the slackness in the shipping trade, Mr. Iwanaga stated that the steamers *Omi Maru*, the *Yamashiro Maru*, the *Yokohama Maru*, the *Eljo Maru*, and the *Nagato Maru*, are lying idle, but he stated that it was due not solely to the business depression, but to the business policy of the Company. Not only the above five steamers, but also the *Togata Maru* and the *Echigo Maru*, can be used on the Chinese, the Korean and other coast services by other parties on a more paying basis than to the hands of the N. Y. K. Company, so that the latter is considering it advisable to sell them to other parties.

BUSINESS NOT SO SATISFACTORY. Mr. Kato, Vice-President of the same Company, when interviewed, stated that the business during the latter half of the last business year was unsatisfactory as compared with the first half of last year. Owing to the Chinese boycott, as well as to the raising of the American railway freights and other reasons, the receipts will show a decrease of about ¥400,000 as compared with the profit of the first half year. Taking into consideration the conditions of the European service and the Australian service, he stated that the Company's receipts will show a further falling-off, but he stated that it is certain that the profits during the latter half of last business year will reach to more than ¥200,000 although the profit of the first half year amounted to ¥240,000.

REUTER'S POLITICAL TELEGRAMS.

CESSATION OF GOVERNMENT SUBSCRIPTION.

The following correspondence appears as an appendix to the Chamber of Commerce annual report:

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 12th February, 1909.

Dear Sir,—I am directed by my Committee to inquire of you upon what terms you are prepared to renew the present agreement with the Chamber for Reuter's Telegraphic Service. Further, I am directed to convey to you my Committee's wish that, in the event of your inability to agree upon terms for the future service, you will do them the favour of acquainting them with whatever arrangements are made.

My Committee feel that the public are entitled to an efficient service and would like to be satisfied on that point.—I am, &c., E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

J. Y. V. Vernon, Esq., Agent, Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, Present.

Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, Hongkong, 18th February, 1909.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your communication of this date, and in reply beg to inform you that I am not prepared on behalf of Reuter's Telegram Company to renew the present agreement for political telegrams, until such time as I have communicated with the H. & O. office, which, however, I will do at once by letter, or if you prefer it by telegram. I need not say that your long connection with these telegrams fully entitles you to expect and to receive every consideration in regard to a renewal of the agreement if you so wish it, and I know that Reuter's Telegram Company will do all in their power to meet you, more than half way.

I do not understand the last paragraph of your letter; does it mean to convey that you do not consider the present service efficient? If so I would be glad to know on what grounds, and what exception you take to it.—Yours, &c., J. Y. V. VERNON, Agent.

The Secretary, the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, Hongkong, May 5th, 1909.

Dear Sir,—In reference to our correspondence of the 18th February last concerning a renewal of your agreement for Reuter's political telegrams, I now beg to advise you that in reply to my letter to the Head Office, dated 10th February, I am instructed to say that although the Company had hoped to obtain somewhat better terms in face of the low ruling exchange, they are willing, in view of the good relations which have always existed between the Chamber and themselves, to renew the agreement if you so wish. I now submit an extract from the letter referred to above, and to request that you will let me know as early as possible whether you decide to renew the agreement.

"After duly considering the question in all its lights we feel that we cannot do better than adhere to your suggestion of renewing the agreement with the Chamber of Commerce. They have been throughout friendly customers of the Company, which in its turn has every desire to reciprocate their good feeling. Consequently, while the present extensive service entails considerable burdens on the Company we are prepared to take into consideration the Chamber's plea that it is not in a position to increase its contribution, much as we had hoped to enjoy some advantage in the new contract. If, therefore, you are persuaded that any increase of subscription on their part would expose them to a real sacrifice we are prepared out of regard for our long-standing relations to forego any increment, and to renew the contract on the present basis of payment. In thanking you in advance for your good offices we beg to convey to the Chamber the expression of our lively regards, and of the pleasure it will give us to continue the long-standing amicable relation between the two bodies."—I have, &c.,

HERBERT DE REUTER, Managing Director.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Agent, Hongkong. The Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 29th July, 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to ask that you will be good enough to place the following before His Excellency:—

For many years Reuter's telegrams have been issued by the Chamber, and such arrangement has, so far as can be ascertained, given satisfaction to all parties concerned.

My Committee would deeply regret the severance of connections so long maintained, and the withdrawal of the Government's subscription would seem likely to bring this about. In normal times the "Subscriptions" fall short of the cost of publication, and the Chamber has to face a small loss. The withdrawal of the Government's subscription of \$15 per annum would mean increasing the loss to an amount which my Committee would not feel justified in asking the Chamber to bear.

Before finally deciding not to continue the agreement with Reuter, my Committee venture to place the situation before His Excellency in the hope that the Government may, after all, decide to continue their subscription.—I am, &c.,

E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th August, 1909.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor regrets that he is unable to alter the decision, notified to your Committee in my letter No. 47507 of the 12th of last October, to discontinue the Government

subscription to Reuter's Telegram Company as from the 1st of next November.—I am, &c., F. H. MAY, Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, The Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 8th September, 1909.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter to you of 29th July and your reply of 19th August on the subject of Reuter's Telegrams Service, I have the honour to request that the Government be good enough to continue the subscription of \$15 per annum until the 31st December, 1909.

The extension is calculated to enable my Committee or Messrs. Reuter's Telegram Co. to make arrangements for the preservation of the service for the Colony.—I have, &c., E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 10th September, 1909.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 8th instant I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that the subscription of this Government to Reuter's Telegram Company should be continued until the 31st December, 1909, after which date it will cease.—I have, &c., C. CLEMENTI, For Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 3rd November, 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to state that my Committee, having given the matter very careful consideration, regret that the Chamber cannot in view of the loss it will have to face through the withdrawal of the Government's subscription, renew the present arrangement for Messrs. Reuter's Telegram Service.

Please accept this as formal intimation that the Chamber's subscription of \$500 per annum will cease after the payment for December, 1909.

I am to express the regret felt by my Committee at the severance of the connection which has been mutually satisfactory for 32 years.—I am, &c.,

E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary, Frank Smyth, Esq., Attorney for J. Y. V. Vernon, Esq., Messrs. Reuter's Telegram Co., Ltd.

Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, 24, Old Jewry, London, E.C., 9th December, 1909.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Smyth has forwarded to us your letter of the 3rd ultimo, intimating the decision of the Chamber to cease their direct subscription to the Company after the end of the current year.

We quite understand the reason for this step on the part of the Chamber, and our object in addressing you on the present occasion is to convey our appreciation of the friendly sentiments embodied in the concluding paragraph of your letter, and to assure you that the long-standing relations between the Chamber of Commerce and our Company have been mutually agreeable.

Allow us therefore to profit by your good offices to convey to the Chamber of Commerce our warm acknowledgments for the confidence and courtesy they have invariably shown us during the many years of our connection.—I have, &c.,

HERBERT DE REUTER, The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

CANTON RAY BY DAY.

A STRANGE INCIDENT.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 22nd April.

The steam launch *Wai Hoi* was to have left here at 10 o'clock yesterday morning with a member of guests who had been invited to proceed to Heungchow to take part in the ceremony in connection with the project whereby it is intended to create a rival to Macao. At the last moment, however, the launch was found to be out of proper working order and was unable to start even after some repairs had been effected. The passengers were in a high degree of tension lest they should not reach time to participate in the auspicious ceremony. Fortunately, the services of two smaller launches were secured and they towed the *Wai Hoi* to its destination at 4 p.m. in the afternoon instead of at the scheduled time.

THE NEW PORT OF HEUNGCHOW. Yesterday, the cruiser *Kiang Ku*, having on board H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen-chun, and the cruiser *Kiang Ling* with Admiral Li Chun and his party on board, left here for the Boga Tigis Forts where they moored for the night and left again early this morning for Heungchow. The Canton officials appeared to be greatly interested with the development of the new city, which will doubtless become a rival to the Portuguese port of Macao, especially at the present time, when the question of the delimitation of Macao is exercising Chinese and Portuguese alike.

THE DELIMITATION OF MACAO. At 2 p.m. on the 21st instant, H.E. Ko Yu Him, the Special Commissioner appointed to conduct negotiations with the Portuguese Government over the question of the delimitation of Macao, arrived here from Hongkong in the cruiser *Kiang To*. It is learnt that Taotai Im Ku and Taotai Wo Kwong Chin have received instructions to assist the Commissioner in his work. H.E. Ko was accorded a warm reception by the members of the Society for the Protection of Boundary Rights on his arrival at the wharf.

LEATHER FACTORY TO BE SHORTLY OPENED. The Canton officials are making preparations to open a leather factory, which will be located in Tsang Po, close to the waterworks. The capital to be raised for the Government concern is said to be \$50,000.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SEA. At about 12 o'clock last night, a steam launch named *Awong Shing* collided with a sailing

Today's Advertisements.

A PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO

DR. G. H. BATESON WRIGHT.

LATE HEADMASTER, QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

THE Undersigned invite subscriptions from past and present Pupils of Central School and Queen's College towards a fund which it is proposed to raise to provide a MEMORIAL for DR. GEORGE H. BATESON WRIGHT, until recently Headmaster of Queen's College and now retired.

The form the memorial is to take will be determined by the amount of the subscriptions available for the purpose.

When a sufficiently large sum of money has been collected a meeting of subscribers will be held at a time and place to be fixed by notice for the purpose of discussing the subject and appointing a committee.

In the meantime subscriptions will be received by the undersigned. LAU CHU PAK, HO KOM TONG. Hongkong, 23rd April, 1909. [365]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED,

on

TUESDAY,

the 27th April, 1909, at 11 A.M., at their

Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road,

corner of Ice House Street,

A QUANTITY OF

AMERICAN BEER,

(In Quarts and Pints)

TERMS—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1909. [366]

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE

AND MOJI.

THE Steamship

"GREGORY APCAR."

Capt. S. H. Baleson, will be despatched for the

above Ports on MONDAY, the 3rd May,

at Noon.

This Steamer has Superior Accommodation

for Passengers, and is installed throughout

with Electric Light and carries a duly certified

Doctor.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1909. [367]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,

LIMITED.

HONGKONG TO SHANGHAI DIRECT

CARGO & PASSENGER SCHEDULE

SERVICE.

THE Twin Screw Steamers "ANHUI,"

"CHIN HUA," "CHENAN," and

"LINAN" leave Hongkong alternately every

THURSDAY and SUNDAY at Daylight

for SHANGHAI Direct.

The Sunday morning steamers are

available for the Postal Authorities for the conveyance

of H.M. Mails to Europe via the Siberian

route, and are the most regular and convenient

sailings for passengers travelling via Siberia.

For further particulars apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 17th April, 1909. [368]

house-boat in the Macao Passage off Shamen

and the latter was capsized owing to the force of

the impact. At the time of the accident, there

were on board the house-boat about a dozen

persons four or five of whom are reported to

have been drowned. The night being dark

and the current strong, it prevented the unfortunate

ones from being rescued.

KIDNAPING EXTRAORDINARY.

Three weeks ago a man named Sir Kap,

manager of the well-known King Shing Co.,

silk exporters of Sai Hong Kai, Sha Koo, pro-

ceeded home to take part in the annual an-

cestral tomb-worshipping at Wong Lin, 16

Shun Tak district. Sir was somehow or other

kidnapped by robbers, who now demand a sum

of \$17,000 for Sir's release. It is reported that

the man's relatives have promised to pay \$5,000,

but the robbers refuse to accept the sum.

A LINK WITH THE PAST.

RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN WARWICK.

By the departure for Home on Saturday of Captain J. Warwick, one of the most popular skippers on the China coast, another link in the chain connecting the present with the early days has been sundered, but only in the sense that Captain Warwick has retired from active service, though it may be that he will again revisit the scene of his labours for the past thirty-four years. For it was in 1875 that Captain Warwick made his first acquaintance with the Far East. He was then chief officer of the *Helena*, afterwards re-named the *Yohin* by the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, in whose employ Captain Warwick has been continuously. From chief officer Captain Warwick rose to the command, his last ship being the *Amoy*, and he established a reputation for careful navigation, though in his long career he met with one or two mishaps. Twice during his term of

Shipping—Steamers.

CANADIAN PACIFIC
RAILWAY CO.'S

Royal Mail Steamship Line.

"EMPRESS LINE."

Between China, Japan and Europe via Canada and the United States, calling at Hongkong, Shanghai, Nagasaki (through the Inland Sea of Japan), Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver B.C.

The only Line that maintains a Regular Schedule Service of
12 DAYS HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER, 12 DAYS VANCOUVER TO HONGKONG,
SAVING 5 TO 7 DAYS' OCEAN TRAVEL.

Proposed sailings from Hongkong, St. John and Quebec.
(Subject to alteration).

Connecting with Royal Mail Atlantic Steamers.

From Hongkong.	From St. John of Quebec.
"EMPRESS OF CHINA" SATURDAY, MAY 1ST.	"EMPRESS OF IRELAND" FRIDAY, MAY 7TH.
"MONTEAGLE" TUESDAY, MAY 11TH.	ALLAN LINER..... FRIDAY, MAY 28TH.
"EMPRESS OF INDIA" SATURDAY, MAY 22ND.	"EMPRESS OF BRITAIN" FRIDAY, JUNE 18TH.
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN" SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH.	

Each Trans-Pacific "Empress" connects at Vancouver with a Special Mail Express Train and at St. John of Quebec with Atlantic Mail Steamer as shown above. The "Empress of Britain" and "Empress of Ireland" are magnificent vessels of 14,500 tons, Speed 20 knots, and are regarded as second to none on the Atlantic.

Passengers booked to all the principal points in Canada, the United States and Europe, also around the World.
HONGKONG TO LONDON, 1st Class, via Canadian Atlantic Port or New York (including Meals and Berth in Sleeping Car while crossing the American Continent by Canadian Pacific direct line).
Passengers for Europe have the option of going forward by any Trans-Atlantic Line either from Canadian Ports or from New York or Boston.

SPECIAL THROUGH RATES (First Class only) are granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services of China and Japan Governments.
Through Passengers are allowed Stop over privileges at the various points of interest on route.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE" carries only "One Class" of Saloon Passengers (termed Intermediate) the accommodation and commissariat being excellent in every way.
HONGKONG TO LONDON, Intermediate on Steamers and 1st Class on Canadian and American Railways.

Via Canadian Atlantic Port.....43.
Via New York.....45.

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage and Freight, apply to—
D. W. QUADDOCK, General Traffic Agent,
Corner Pedder Street and Praya (opposite Blake Pier).

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, (SUBJECT TO ALTERATION)

Steamship	On	At	Time
TIENTSIN VIA TSINGTAU.....	"CHIPS HANG"	SATURDAY, 24th April, Noon.	
SHANGHAI.....	"LA MONGSANG"	SUNDAY, 25th April, Daylight.	
SHANGHAI, PENANG & CALOUTTA.....	"KONGSANG"	TUESDAY, 27th April, Noon.	
SHANGHAI, PENANG & CALOUTTA.....	"KONGSANG"	FRIDAY, 30th April, Noon.	
SHANGHAI VIA NINGPO.....	"KONGSANG"	FRIDAY, 30th April, Noon.	
MANILA.....	"KONGSANG"	FRIDAY, 30th April, 4 P.M.	
SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA, KOBE & MOJI.....	"KONGSANG"	WEDNESDAY, 19th May, Noon.	

RETURN TOURS TO JAPAN.
Occurring 24 DAYS.

The steamers "Kaitang," "Namang" and "Fookang" leave about every 3 weeks for Shanghai and Yokohama returning via Kobe (Inland Sea) and Moji to Hongkong, providing a stay of 5 to 6 days in Japan if passengers leave the steamer at Yokohama and rejoin at Kobe. These vessels have all modern improvements and are fitted throughout with Electric Light. A daily qualified surgeon is also carried.

Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.
Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Yangtze Ports, Chefoo, Tientsin & Newchwang, For Freight or Passage, apply to—

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LD.,
General Managers.

Telephone No. 61.
Hongkong, 22nd April, 1909.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

Steamship	To	Sail
AMOY, MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO.....	"BUNGKANG"	24th April, 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI (connects with Siberian Mail to Europe).....	"OHEAN"	25th " Daylight.
MANILA.....	"TAMING"	27th " 3 P.M.
SHANGHAI.....	"SINGHONG"	29th " 4 P.M.
HOIHOW & HAIKONG (connects with Siberian Mail to Europe).....	"SINGAN"	29th " 9 A.M.
MANILA.....	"ANHUI"	2nd May, Daylight.
SHANGHAI.....	"TEAN"	4th " 3 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA and USUAL.....	"CHINHUA"	6th " 4 P.M.
AUSTRALIAN PORTS.....	"TAIYUAN"	14th " "

Reduced Saloon Fares, single and return, to Manila and Australian Ports.
DIRECT SAILING TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly.
S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SANUL"

AUSTRALIAN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in Staterooms. A daily qualified Doctor is carried. REDUCED FARES. Cargo booked through for all Australian, New Zealand and Tasmanian Ports.
MANILA TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS and TIENTSIN STEAMERS have superior accommodation with Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in Staterooms and Dining Saloon.

SHANGHAI LINE.

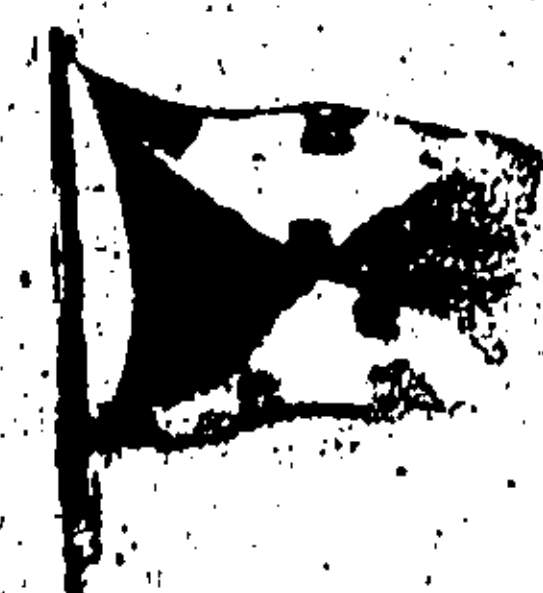
FAST SCHEDULE TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS (Anhui, Chenan, Linan, Chihung), with excellent passenger accommodation, Electric Light throughout and Electric Fans in the Staterooms and Dining Saloon, leave Hongkong for Shanghai direct, every Tuesday and Sunday, taking cargo, through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.
N.B.—These steamers land passengers in Shanghai avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

The Sunday morning sailings carry passengers and H.M. Mails to connect with Siberian Mail to Europe.

Fares including wines:—single \$40, return \$70.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Telephone No. 36.
Hongkong, 23rd April, 1909.



HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon midships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewards carried.—All the latest up to date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship	Tonnage	Captain	For	Sailing Date
ZAFIRO.....	1540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 24th April, at Noon.
ROBI.....	1540	R. W. Almond	"	SATURDAY, 1st May, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN TOMES & CO.
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Telephone No. 17th April.

Shipping—Steamers.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE FOR
CALLAO, IQUIQUE, VALPARAISO, Etc., via MOJI, KOBE,
YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, MANZANILLO and
SALINA CRUZ (Mexico).

S.S. HONGKONG MARU.....	5,000 tons gross.....	Sail 1st June, 1909, at Noon.
S.S. MANSHU MARU.....	5,000 ".....	1st July, 1909, at Noon.
S.S. AMERICA MARU.....	5,000 ".....	October, 1909.
S.S. HONGKONG MARU.....	5,000 ".....	Dec., 1909.

For particulars, apply to

K. MATSUDA,
Manager.

TOYO KISEN KAISHA, Yok Building.

Hongkong, 23rd April, 1909.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM
FOR
STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA,
ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN
PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND
LONDON.
(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA,
PERIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL AMERICA
and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"ASSAYE"
Captain Owen Jones, R.N.E., carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY &c., on SATURDAY, the 1st May, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. "Marnora," to 500 tons, from Colombo. Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuable, all Cargo for France, and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London, other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed via Bombay by the R.M.S. "Egypt," due in London on 11th June, 1909.
Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.
For further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1909.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND
YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"OCEANIE"
Captain Seller, will be despatched for the above Ports on or about MONDAY, the 26th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
P. DE CHAMPORIN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1909.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE
(Calling at Port Darwin and Queensland
Ports, and taking through Cargo to
Adelaide, New Zealand,
Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EASTERN"
Captain McArthur will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 28th inst., at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.
The Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1909.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS,
LIMITED.

FOR SOUTHAMPTON, LONDON AND
ANTWERP.

THE Steamship

"MONMOUTHSHIRE"
Captain G. S. Warner, R.N.E., will be despatched as above on or about 5th May.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th April, 1909.

CHARGEURS REUNIS.
(FRENCH STEAMSHIP COMPANY).REGULAR FREIGHT SERVICE
TO

SAN FRANCISCO, MEXICO, PERU,
CHILE, RIVER PLATE, BRAZIL.

The steamers of the CHARGEURS REUNIS Co. proceed from YOKOHAMA DIRECT to SAN FRANCISCO, without any call en route thus affording a fast regular cargo-boat service from China and Japan to San Francisco.

THE Steamship

"AMIRAL EXELMANS"
10,000 tons, Captain X, will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO and other above destinations on or about the 21st of May.

For further particulars apply to
MESSAGERIES MARITIMES,
Agents at Hongkong.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1909.

HONGKONG AVERAGE MARKET
PRICES.

Corrected 15th April, 1909, per 5 Mas.

BUTCHER MEAT.

Beef sirloin & prime cut—Mei Lung Pa B	20
" Corned—Ham Ngau Yuk	20
" Roast—Shiu	20
" Breast—Ngau Lam	18
" Soup, Tong Yuk	15
" Steak—Ngau Yuk Pa	20
" Shioin—Ngau Lau	30
" Sausages—Ngau Yuk Chong	26
Bullock's Brains— " Know	10
" Tongue fresh—Ngau Li	50
" Corned—Ham Ngau Li	60
" Head—Ngau Tau	80
" Heart—Ngau Sum	13
" Hump, Salt—Ngau Kin	18
" Feet—Ngau Keok	8
" Kidneys—Ngau Yiu	10
" Tail—Ngau Mei	18
" Liver—Ngau Con	12
" Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To	6
Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau-chai-tau-koek	\$1.00
Mutton Chop—Young Pal Kwat	22
" Leg—Young Pei	22
" Shoulder—Young Shau	30
Pigs' Chittlings—Ohl cheong	2
" Brains—Chl Know	2
" Feet—Ohl Keok	11
" Fry—Chl Chak	25
" Head—Ohl Tau	15
" Heart—Ohl Sum	8
" Kidneys—Ohl Yiu	7
" Liver—Ohl Kon	24
Pork, Chop—Ohl Pal Kwat	18
" Corned—Ham Chu Yuk	—
" Leg—Ohl Pei	23
" Fat or Lard—Chu Yau	17
Sheep's Head and Feet—Young Tau	50
" Keok	50
" Heart—Young Sum	6
" Kidneys—Young Yiu	9
" Liver—Young Con	24
Sacking Pigs, To Order—Chu Chai	22
Soet Beef—Sang Ngau Yau	10
" Mutton—Sang Young Yau	21
Veal—Ngau Chai Yuk	10
" Sausages—Ngau Chai Yuk Tong	10

FRUITS.

Almond—Hung Yau	30
Apples, (California)—Kam San Ping	40
" (Chefoo)—Tin Ohun Ping	—
" Small—Hol Tong	—
" Oatard—Fan Lai Chi	—
Bananas, fragrant, Canton—Sang Sheng	4
" Hong Chiu	4
" (brides), Macao—San Heng Chiu	4
Chestnuts, Chinese—Foong Lut	10
Carambols—Young Toi	—
Coconuts—Yeh Tai	10
Grapes—Sia Tai Yeh	—
Lemons, China—Ning Moong	10
" Amer.—Kum San Ning Moong	6
Lichees, Small Stone—Lai Chi Ooi	40
" Fresh, Lai Chi	—
Limes, (Saigon)—Sai Kung Ning	10
" Moong	10
Mango, Manila—Lui Sung Moong	15
Mango, Saigon—Sai Kung Moong	—
Mangosteens, San Chuk Tai per 100	15
Oranges, Tim Chang	15
" Small—Tai Kot	—
" Mandarin—Tim Kuit	—
Olives—Pak Lam	8
" Passion Fruit	—
Pears, (American)—Kam San Shui Li	12
" (Canton), Cooking—Sai Li	14
" (Shanghai)—Sheung Hol Li	18
Peanuts, Fa Sang	6
Persimmons, Large—Hung Chie	—
Pine-apples, 1st quality—Sheung Poon	15
" Ti Paw-law	—
" and cooking—Chung-lang	—
Paw-law	—
Platains—Tai Chiu	3
Plums, Swatow—Hung Lai	—
Pomelos, Siam—Chim Lo Yau	30
Walnuts, Hop Tou	11
" Green—Sang Hop Tou	—
Shanghai Lo Kwai	—

VEGETABLES, &c.

Artichokes, Shanghai—Sheung Hol Ah	6
" Chl Chak	—
Beans, (French) Macao—Oh Moon Pin	—
" Tau	—
Beans, (French), Shanghai—Sheung Hol	—
" Pin Tau	—
Beans, Sprout—Ah Chai	5
Beans, Long—Tau Koh	—
Beet Root—Hung Choi Tau	5
Brijals, Green—Cheng Yung Ker	5
Brijals, Red—Hung Ker	5
Brassica—Pak Chai	4
Bamboo Shoots—Chook Shau	3
Cabbage, Chinese, com.—Kai Choy	3
Cabbage, Red—Kai Lao Tau	—
Cabbage, (Shanghai)—Yeh Choi	10
Cane Shoots, bunch—Kau Shun	—
Cauliflower, Large size—Tai Yeh Choi	—
" Fa	—
Cauliflower, Medium size—Chung Yeh	—
" Chai-fa	—
Cauliflower, Small size—Sai Yeh Choi-fa	—
Carrots—Kam Shun	5
Celery, Chinese—Tong Kan Choy	5
Celery, English—Yung Kan Chai	4
Celery, White—Pak Yung Kan Chai	—
Chillies, Dried—Con Lai Chiu	50
" Red—Hung Fa	—
" Green—Cheng Lat Chiu	50
Curry Stuff, English—Ka Lee Choi Liu	10
Cucumbers—Cheng Kwa	4
Blister Squash—Fu Kwa	10
Garlic—Suen Tan	8
Ginger, young—Sun Tai Kung	5
" old—Lo Kung	5
Horse Radish, Shanghai—Lik Kan	15
Indian Corn—Suk Mai	—
Lettuce—Yung Sang Choi	—
Water Chestnuts—Ma Tai	8
" Mandarin—Kwai Lum Ma Tai	8
Musk Melon	—
Mushrooms, Fresh—Sang Cho Kho	—
Onions, Bombay—Yung Chung Tau	7
" Green—Sang Ching	—
" Shai—Sheng Hol Ching Tau	6
" Japan—Yat Poon	—
Okra—Mo Ker	—
Parsley, English—Yung On Sai	10
Gradus Pea	8
Green Peas—Chung Tau	8
Potatoes, Sweet—Fan Shu	3
" Shanghai—Sheng Hol Shu	—
" Teal	—
" Japan—Yat Poon Shu Teal	—
" American—Fa Ki	—
" Foochow—Fuk Chan Shu Teal	—
" Macao—Oh Moon	—
Pumpkin—Tong Kwa	—
Radish—Hung Lo Pak Teal	4
Rhubarb	—
Shalots—Con Ching Tau	—
Spinage (Chinese)—Paw Choi	—
Spinach—Yis Choi	—
Tomatoes—Yat Kai	6
" Taro—Wu Tan	—
Turkey, Pencil (Long)—Low Pak	10
" English—Yung Low Pak	8
Vegetable Marrow—Chl Kwa	10
Water Cresses—Sai Yung Choi	10
" Caulrops—Lan Koi	—
" Lily Roots—Lai Ngau	—
Yams—Tai Shu	—
Sage	—

The prices necessarily vary from day to day and the Sanitary Board has no power to control.

Wholesale and retail prices of the above goods, as shown in the above list, are for the purpose of reference only.

W. BOWEN & SONS, Ltd.

FISH.

Barbel—Ka Yu	9
Bream—Bin Yu	13
Canton Fresh Water Fish—Hol Shu Yu	74
Carp—Li Yu	20
Catfish—Chl Yu	11
Codfish—Mau Yu	12
Crabs—Hal	18
Cuttle Fish—Muk Yu	14
Dab—Sa Mang Yu	10
Dace—Wong Mei Lun	18
Dog Fish—Tui Tu Sa	10
Eels, Congee—Hal Man Yu	16
" Fresh water—Tam Sui Yu	14
" Yellow—Wong Shu	24
Frogs—Tian Kai	28
Garropia—Sak Pan	12
Gidgeon—Pak Kip Yu	13
Herrings—Tao Pak	18
Hallbut—Cheung Kwan Yu	18
Labrus—Wong Fa Yu	15
Loach—Wo Yu	13
Lobsters—Lung Ha	16
Mackerel—Chl Yu	12
Monk Fish—Mon Yu	12
Mullet—Chl Yu	12
Oysters—Sung Hoo	20
Parrotfish—Kai Kung Yu	15
Perch—Tau Leo	18
Pike—Fa Paw Poon	18
Plaice—Pan Yu	18
Pomfret, Black—Hak Chong	23
Pomfret, White—Pak Chong	23
Prawns—Ming Yu	48
Rock Fish—Sak Kan Kung	9
Salmon—Chun Yu	15
Shrimp—(Shrimp) fresh water—Ma Yu	15

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS OF THE ITALIAN CONVENT, CAINE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Collars and Cuffs renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery, Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superioress will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor School, who are taught by the Sisters.

SHARE QUOTATIONS

Supplied by Messrs. E. S. KADOORIE & Co. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE	PAID UP	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT	AT WORKING ACCOUNT	LAST DIVIDEND	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION BASED ON LAST YEAR'S DIV.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	120,000	\$125	\$125	{ \$1,500,000 \$14,500,000 \$15,000,000 }	\$2,006,734	Final of £2 and bonus of 5/- for 1908 @ ex 1/8 = \$16.024	5 1/2 %	\$240 sales London £90
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£6	{ £4,000 £15,000 }	\$10,223	2s (London 3/6) for 1908	...	\$51
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$23,757 \$21,950 \$185,000 }	none	\$14 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$187 sales
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	{ £15,000 £15,000 £15,000 £15,000 }	Tls. 160,511	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1907	5 1/2 %	Tls. 105
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	12,400	\$250	\$100	{ \$1,500,000 \$197,248 \$105,249 \$68,169 }	\$2,474	Final of \$17 making \$47 for 1907 and interim of \$30 for 1908	6 %	\$785 ex div. s.
Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited	12,000	\$100	\$60	{ \$1,000,000 \$100,032 \$85,157 }	\$591,763	\$12 and bonus \$3 for 1908	7 %	\$225 buyers
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	\$100	\$20	{ \$1,000,000 \$138,061 \$13,802 }	\$375,341	\$6 and bonus \$1 for 1907	7 1/2 %	\$104 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	{ \$1,500,000 \$1,418,173 }	\$368,711	\$27 for 1907	8 1/2 %	\$335 sellers
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$7,000 \$254,638 }	\$1,035	\$1 for 1908	...	\$13 buyers
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$150,000 \$99,067 }	NIL	24 for year ending 30.6.1908	7 1/2 %	\$35 buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$150,000 \$607,500 \$70,421 \$35,344 }	\$20,279	Final of 1/2 making 2 1/2 for 1908	8 1/2 %	\$30 buyers
INDUSTRY.								
Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd. (Preferred)	60,000	£5	£5	{ £10,000 £10,000 }	£13,755	{ 6/- for 1907 on Preference shares only @ ex 1/9 1/16 = \$3.154 }	4 1/2 %	{ \$46 \$24 }
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 75,000 \$90,000 }	Tls. 14,510	Final of Tls. 14 making Tls. 34 for 1908	7 1/2 %	{ Tls. 51 sales Tls. 53 sales }
Shell Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	{ £10,000 £6,000 }	£6,817	Second interim of 1/- for a/c 1908	...	56/- buyers
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$5	{ \$10,000 \$47,231 }	\$98	{ \$1.00 for year ending 10.4.1908 \$0.50 }	{ 4 1/2 % 3 1/2 % }	{ \$23 \$15 }
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 80,000 Tls. 41,479 Tls. 44,133 Tls. 81,000 Tls. 7,000 }	Tls. 2,215	Final of Tls. 14 making Tls. 24 for 1908	11 %	Tls. 45 sales
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$50,000 \$56,848 }	Dr. \$5,858	\$5 for year ending 31.12.08	3 1/2 %	\$1374
Larson Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 }	Dr. \$15,877	\$3 for 1907	...	\$16
Parek Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 100,000 }	Tls. 9,173	Tls. 31 for year ending 31.8.08	...	Tls. 1324
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ltd.	1,000,000	£1	£1	{ £175,000 £14,289 }	£11,556	Final of 1/8 (coupon No. 11) for year end- ing 29.2.08	7 %	Tls. 18 sellers
Ruby Australia Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000	£1	£1	{ £150,000 £4,873 }	Dr. £2,291	No. 12 of 1/- = 48 cents	...	\$3
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	18,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$12,000 \$12,000 }	Dr. \$7,411	\$1.75 for year ending 31.12.06	...	\$12
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$100,000 \$126,806 \$10,000 \$197,191 }	\$30,103	Final of \$14 making \$34 for 1907	...	\$51 buyers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ltd.	50,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$100,000 \$100,000 }	\$387,778	Final of \$4 making \$8 for 1908	10 %	\$80 sales
Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd.	55,700	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 1,000,000 Tls. 697,257 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 125,000 }	Tls. 23,712	Interim of Tls. 24 for 6 months ending 31st October, 1908	5 1/2 %	Tls. 83 sales
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company, Limited	36,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 697,257 Tls. 50,000 Tls. 125,000 }	Tls. 22,818	Final of Tls. 6 making Tls. 10 for 1908	6 %	Tls. 164 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.								
Anglo-French Land Investment Co., Ltd.	25,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 15,000 \$10,000 }	Tls. 1,134	Tls. 6 for year ending 29.2.09	6 %	Tls. 100 buyers
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	50,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	Dr. 4,220	\$24 for year ending 30.6.07	...	\$204 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	50,000	\$15	\$15	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$24,511	\$1.20 on old and 60 cents on first new issue	...	\$184 sales
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$295	Final of \$3 making \$6 for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$85 buyers
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$100	\$100	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$16,475	Final of \$34 making \$7 for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$964 buyers
Hongkong Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$5,486	60 cents for 1908	7 1/2 %	\$81
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	\$50	\$50	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$278	\$14 for 1908	5 %	\$30
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	78,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 1,123,045 Tls. 312,000 none }	Tls. 142,404	Final of Tls. 3 and bonus of Tls. 2 making Tls. 8 for 1908	7 1/2 %	Tls. 117 sales
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	\$50	\$50	{ Tls. 312,000 none }	Tls. 968	Final of \$2 making \$4 for 1908	9 %	\$44 sellers
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ltd.	15,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 45,939 \$20,000 }	Tls. 8,880	Tls. 5 for year ending 31.10.1908	4 1/2 %	Tls. 116 sales
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	\$10	\$10	{ Tls. 150,000 Tls. 45,939 \$20,000 }	\$9,553	50 cents for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2 %	\$9 sellers
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	{ Tls. 175,000 Tls. 4,829 }	Tls. 8,372	Tls. 6 for year ending 30.9.06 (8%)	...	Tls. 92
Laon-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 175,000 Tls. 4,829 }	Tls. 4,829	Tls. 4 for 1908	...	Tls. 111 sellers
Boy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	{ Tls. 31,172 Tls. 15,911 }	Tls. 15,911	Tls. 50 for 1908	...	Tls. 410
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	{ £1,500 £40,000 }	£648	1/10th per share for 1907 = 1.037	10 %	\$104 sales
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	\$12	\$12	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	NIL	\$1.20 or 1908	10 1/2 %	\$11.30 sales
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$51,138	50 cents for year ending 28.2.06	...	\$5
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ltd.	185,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$1,407	80 cents for 1908	8 1/2 %	\$94 sales
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	40,000	\$7 1/2	\$6	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$48	\$1.50 for year ending 31.7.08	5 1/2 %	\$14 buyers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	400,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$3,751	Final of 50 cents making 90 cents for 1908	10 1/2 %	\$890 sales
H. Price & Company, Limited	12,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$291	75 cents for 9 months ending 31.12.07	8 %	\$12
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	\$20	\$20	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$186,000	\$2 for year ending 28.2.08	8 1/2 %	\$23 buyers
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$9,321	\$1 and bonus 20 cts. for year ending 29.2.08	1 1/2 %	\$191 sales
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$7,616	Final of \$15 per share making \$10 for 1908	1 1/2 %	\$160 sellers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$1,190	Final of \$1 per share making \$2 for 1908	8 1/2 %	\$24
Maatschappij tot Mijn- en Landbouw- exploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	{ Tls. 547,500 Tls. 63,111 }	Tls. 316,682	1st Quarterly div. of Tls. 12 1/2 for account 1899	4 1/2 %	Tls. 1075 b.
Peak Tramways Company, Limited	25,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$7,471	80 cents on fully paid shares and 6 cents on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.08	6 %	\$14
Philippine Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$18,640	None	4 1/2 %	\$8
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	24,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	{ Tls. 100,000 Tls. 24,820 }	Tls. 6,601	Final of Tls. 4 making Tls. 7 1/2 for 1907	6 1/2 %	Tls. 115 sales
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	{ Tls. 24,820 Tls. 75,000 }	Tls. 5,250	Final of Tls. 5 making Tls. 8 for 1908	5 1/2 %	Tls. 135 sellers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	16,250	£20	£20	{ Tls. 24,820 Tls. 75,000 }	Tls. 23,038	Final of 3/- making 46/- for 1908	...	Tls. 415
South China Moring Post, Limited	5,000	\$25	\$25	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	Dr. \$56,622	None	...	\$24
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	\$5	\$5	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$136	40 cents for year ending 31.5.08	7 1/2 %	\$51 sales
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	{ Tls. 15,295 Tls. 4,000 }	Tls. 201	Tls. 61 for year ending 30.4.07	5 1/2 %	Tls. 94 buyers
Wai-pa Waterboat Company, Limited	50,000	\$10	\$10	{ Tls. 15,295 Tls. 4,000 }	\$172	60 cents for year ending 31.12.07	5 1/2 %	\$104 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	10,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$1,360	80 cents on 9,000 ord. shares and \$10.80 on 100 Founders shares for yr. end 31.5.07	6 1/2 %	\$9 sales
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	\$10	\$10	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$6,138	Interim of 30 cts. a/c 1908	...	\$3 buyers
William Powell, Limited	5,000	\$7	\$7	{ \$10,000 \$10,000 }	\$395	Final of 30 cts. making 80 cts. for the year ended 30th June, 1908	...	\$3 buyers

*These shares are entitled to half of the profits....

DIVIDENDS PAYABLE

Hongkong Electric Company, Limited

\$1.20

April 24th

Intimation.

COMPANIA GENERAL DE
TABACOS
DE FILIPINAS.

ESTABLISHED IN 1882. CAPITAL ₱3,000,000.



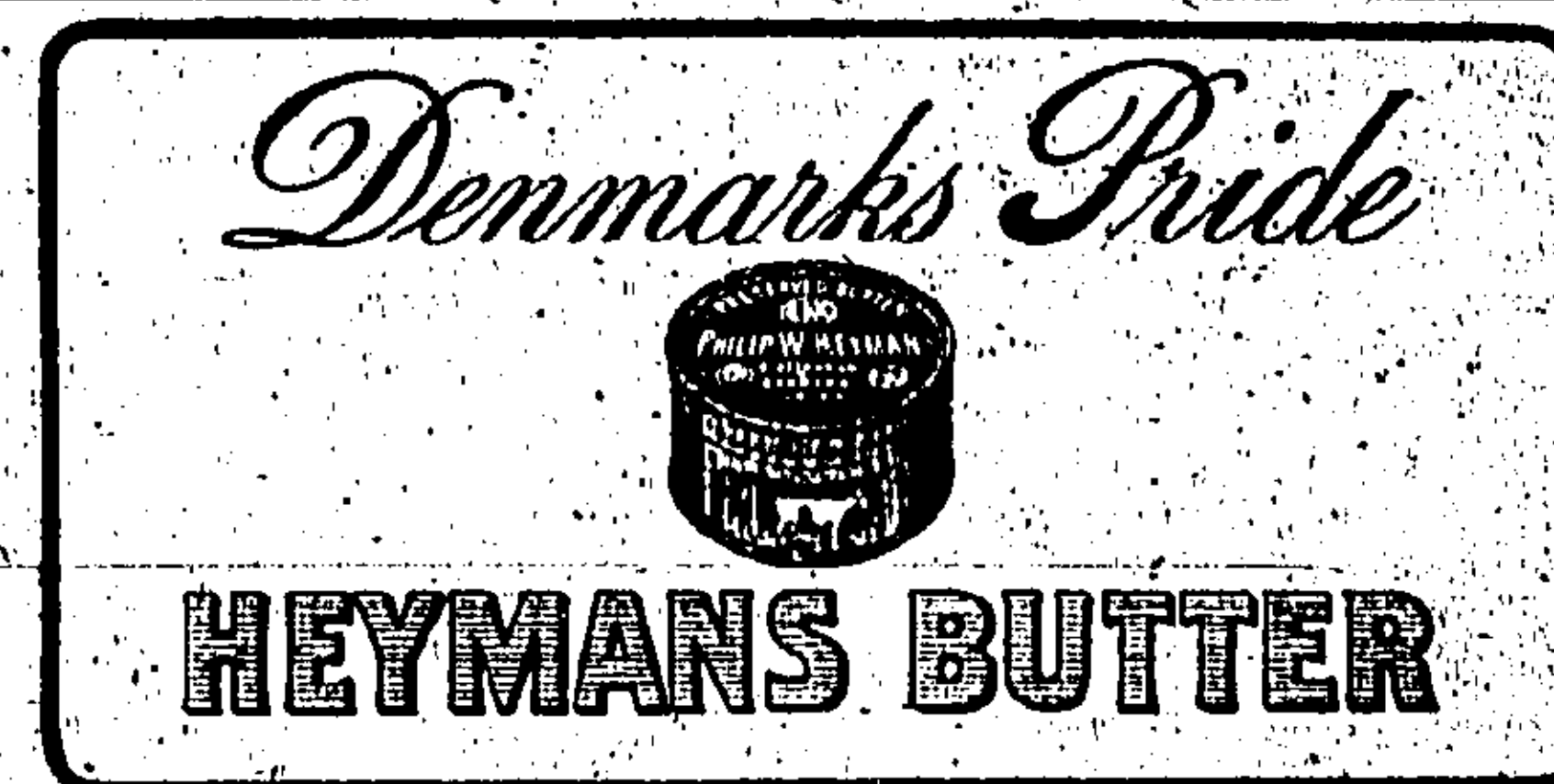
"LA FLOR DE LA ISABELA."

High grade cigars manufactured with the best selected leaf grown in the estates of the Company.

SPECIAL BRANDS:

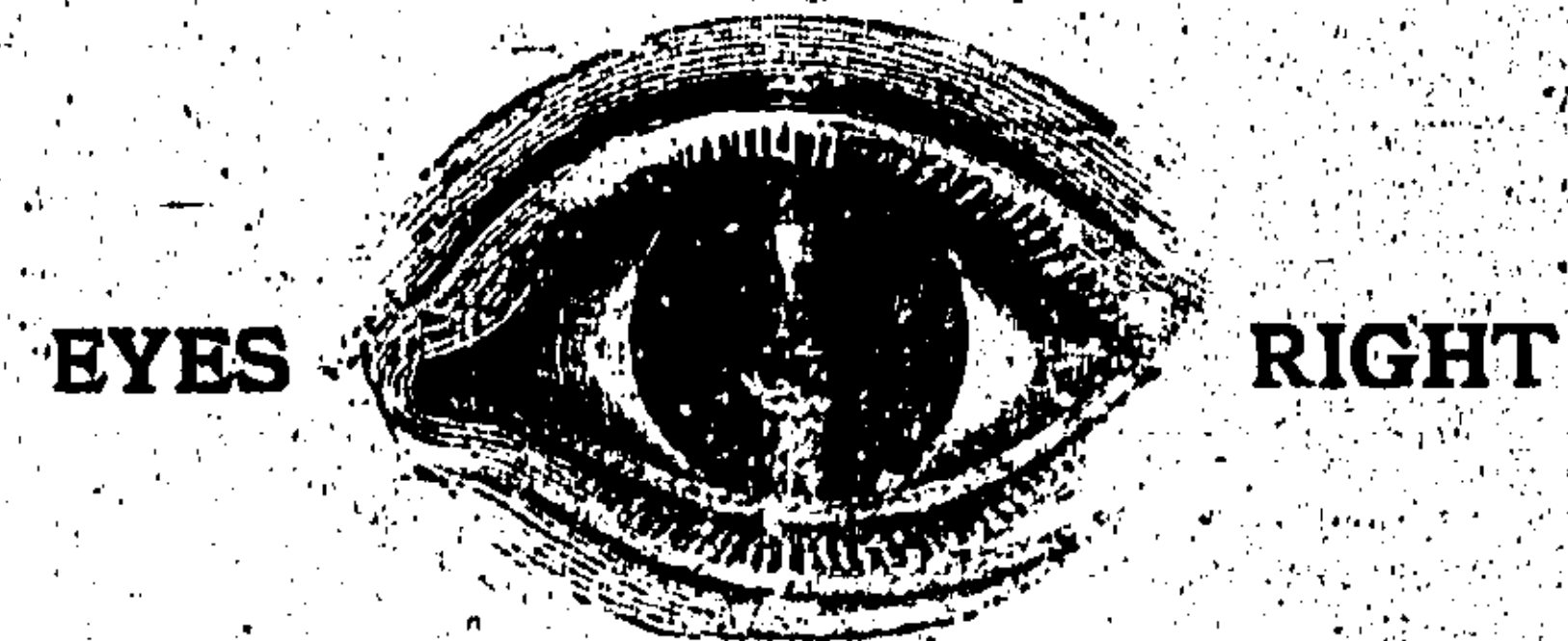
Pigtails, Vagueros Especiales, Regalia A Lopez, Regalia G Pereira, Favoritos A Lopez, Favoritos A Correa, Perfectos Especiales, Exquisitos, Reina Victoria, High Life, Londres Finos, Conchas Finas, and other Current Brands.

RETAILED IN ALL THE LEADING STORES.

BARRETTO & CO.,
AGENTS

SIEMSEN & CO., Sole Agents.

[358]

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
CORNER OF D'AGUILAR STREET AND QUEEN'S ROAD.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.
LONDON, GALTICUTTA, SHANGHAI,
1, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. 50, Beaufort Street, 565, Nanking Road
Hankow, 4th March, 1908.O. C. MOOSA,
1 & 3, D'AGUILAR STREET

NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON.

Trimmed and Untrimmed
HATS, RIBBONS, FLOWERS,
FEATHERS, &c., &c.LACE SCARFS, MOTOR VEILS
IN
VARIOUS COLORS.MOUSQUETEIRE GLOVES
IN
WHITE, BLACK & COLORS.WOOLEN DELAINES, NUNSVEL
INGS, VOILES, &c., &c.LADIES' and CHILDREN'S
UNDERCLOTHINGS.Samples on application. Coast
Port orders carefully executed.

HONGKONG, 25th September, 1908. [37]

LEE YEE
HAIR DRESSING SALOON.HAI ALWAYS ON HAND
CIGARS, CIGARETTES
AND
TOILET REQUISITES
FOR SALE.15, D'AGUILAR STREET,
HONGKONG.THE
CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND
MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

(CAPITAL PAID UP\$1,250,000)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.
Goods received on Storage.
Advances made on Merchandise.
Loans made on the Provident System.
(Rates and Particulars on application).THE OFFICE OF
TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR OF WILLS,
ATTORNEY, &c.
Undertaken and Executed.SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.
General Managers.
Hongkong, 20th March, 1908. [11]THERAPION MAY NOW ALSO BE OBTAINED
IN DRUGS (TASTELINESS) FORM.
A BROKEN-DOWN SYSTEM.
It is a condition (or disease) in which doctors
give many names, but which few of them really
understand. It is a condition in which the body
is so weak that it is unable to resist the action
of the vital forces that maintain the system.
No matter what may be its cause (for there
are almost numberless), its symptoms are the same:
the more pronounced being sleep, weakness,
loss of appetite, and a general feeling of
exhaustion and want of energy for all the ordinary
affairs of life. Now, what ails the patient?
The answer is: a broken-down system.
VITAL STRENGTH, &c., &c.
The cure of this condition is simple, and it is
proved that this night succeeds the day this
cure is certain to be secured by a course of
THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY
THERAPION No. 3
than by any other in the world. It is a
cure in its nature, and it is a cure in its
direction. It is a cure in its nature, and it is
a cure in its direction. It is a cure in its
nature, and it is a cure in its direction.THE EXPIRING LAMP OF LIFE
LIGHTED UP AFRICA
A new medicine imported from France, which
has so lately come into vogue, and which is
regarded as a most valuable and successful
remedy for all constitutional and conditions of
the body, and it is a cure in its nature, and it
is a cure in its direction. It is a cure in its
nature, and it is a cure in its direction. It is
a cure in its nature, and it is a cure in its
direction. It is a cure in its nature, and it is
a cure in its direction. It is a cure in its
nature, and it is a cure in its direction.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

NEW SERIES No. 6059

號五初月三年統宣

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1909.

六拜禮

號四廿月四英港香

313 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 25 CENTS.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE)

DAILY—\$10 per annum.
WEEKLY—\$10 per annum.
The rates per quarter and per annum, proportionally.
Subscriptions for any period less than one month will be charged as for a full month.
The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. Post subscribers can have their copies delivered at their residences without any extra charge. On copies sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 30 cents per quarter.
Single Copies, Daily, ten cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

CONTENTS.

Birth and Marriages.

Leading Articles—

The Hongkong-Haiphong Rice Shipping Trade.

A Friendly Agreement.

Where Lord William Cecil's College Scheme Fails.

How British Exigencies may affect Chinese Finance.

The Sugar Industry.

Telegrams—

Macao Boundary Question.

Emperor Kwang Su's Funeral.

The Army.

Russia in Siberia.

Empress Dowager's Privy Purse.

Noblemen's College.

Another Railway.

Canton-Hankow Railway.

Meeting of Viceroy.

Canton-Macau Railway.

China Merchants' S. N. Co.

Governor of Kansu.

Euouche.

Provincial Treasuries.

Frates Island.

Austro-Chinese Bank.

Viceroy-elect of Yunnan.

Wireless Telegraphy in Shanghai.

Shanghai Taotai.

Opium Exhibition.

China's Currency.

The Press.

Chinese in Australia.

Naval Cadets.

The Press in China.

Army Snugglers.

Conference in Peking.

France and China.

Naval Reorganization.

Mosquitos in Shanghai.

Mongolia and Tibet.

Meetings—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.

The China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.

Cable Attached with Rinderpest.

Japan Sugar Refining Company.

Local Intelligence—

Bank Sheriff Convicted.

A Runner's Grievance.

Police—

Shipyard Labourers.

A Missing Bank Draft.

When Luck Fails.

Sanitary Board Closes Arrested.

Cow Stealer Punished.

Public Fined.

Accident to Cyclist.

Scene in Queen's Road.

A Picked Concubine.

Feng-shui.

Commercial Traveller's Dilemma.

Owner Wanted.

A Bogus Excise Man.

Correspondence—

Wanchai's New Grievance.

The Merchant Service.

Miscellaneous Articles and Reports—

Hongkong Shipping Firms Boycotted.

Macao Boundary Question.

Earthquake in Formosa.

A Rival to Macao.

Death of Mr. G. Murray Bain.

Comrades and Foreign Firms.

Dr. Bateson Wright's Farewell.

Reuters' Political Telegrams.

Hongkong and Opium.

Robbery or Revenge?

Chinese Sailors Mutiny.

Soldier's Sad Death.

Hongkong Gymkhana Club.

Australian Chinese Consul-General.

The Opium Commission.

Hongkong Schools' Sports.

British North Borneo.

Kowloon School.

Canton Day by Day.

Disasters Shanghai Fire.

Sir Robert Hart.

Opium in Shanghai.

Attacked by Chinese.

Opium Prohibition.

An Important Change.

Proposed Chinese Exhibition.

Chinese Missions.

Mutilation of Girls in Kobe.

Volcanic Eruption in the Hokkaido.

Japanese Sugar Excise Law.

Great Britain and Japan.

Japanese Steamship Companies.

The Japan Sugar Company Scandal.

Typhoon in Japan.

Alfalfa Raising in Hongkong.

The Rice Industry.

Commercial—

Freight Market.

Exchange.

Local and General.

The Hongkong Telegraph

MAIL SUPPLEMENT,
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1909.

THE HONGKONG-HAIPHONG RICE SHIPPING TRADE.

(19th April.)

For the second time within eighteen months the principal merchants engaged in the exportation of rice from Haiphong to Hongkong are at loggerheads with the three chief shipping Hongkong firms engaged in the trade between the two centres. The actual position of the parties to the dispute was detailed in our news columns on Saturday, but the matter is of so much importance that it merits the deep consideration of a community whose interests are largely concerned with the interport trade, even where that trade is confined to a brief period every year. For while it is the shipping firms of the Colony which will suffer at the outset, any boycott instituted against them is certain to be reflected in a variety of other ways as the most cursory examination will show. There are the questions of godown accommodation, labour in connection with the re-distribution of the product, insurance, transportation charges and cargo provision for vessels trading to the North. So that taking these few out of many industries concerned the situation has to be faced not merely by the three shipping firms directly affected, but by the larger body of employers and employees connected with the numerous branches of this large and not over-reunorative trade. As was stated in our exclusive report of the conditions as they stand at present, the three shipping firms affected by the sulky attitude of the Haiphong merchants are—Messrs. A. R. Marty & Co.; who have two vessels in the trade, Messrs. Jensen & Co., who have five, and Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, who have three, the latter firm being the youngest competitor for a share of the rice-carrying trade to this port. There is a somewhat singular similarity between the terms which have led to the latest dispute and that which occasioned the former. It is all a matter of the freight charges, and the Haiphong exporters are no doubt buoyed up in their belief that they will ultimately succeed in gaining their end by the fact that the former conflict resulted in their favour, the shipping companies having to climb down and submit to the demands of the shippers. We do not think that the Haiphong exporters will be so easily deceived. The terms of the boycott that has induced this form of boycott to be established, or whether the shippers find it unprofitable to pay a higher rate than that formerly in force, but it is certain that the three shipping firms concerned have not taken the step they proposed of increasing the freight charges without full appreciation of the results likely to flow from their combined action. It seems that when Messrs. A. R. Marty & Co. held a monopoly of the trade, the Haiphong exporting firms were quite willing to pay for the carriage of rice to Hongkong at the rate of 25 cents a picul. When Messrs. Jensen & Co. realised that there was an opening for their steamers to engage in friendly competition with the pioneer firm, no objection was raised to the continuance of the freight rate at the original figure. But when Messrs. Butterfield & Swire appeared on the scene, the exporters saw their chance of playing off one firm against another and the outcome of their efforts was to secure a reduction in the rate of five cents per picul. As the writer of the statement which appeared in Saturday's issue of the *Telegraph* said, in explaining the facts:—"As the competition operated against the triple shipping interests, a mutual arrangement was arrived at whereby it was agreed to revert to the old freight of 25 cents per picul, under penalty in case of a breach by any one of the three contracting parties. The pool came into force on the 20th November, 1907. As customary as the Chinese exporters have been, for a time at any rate, to a cheaper freight, the 'Conference' terms did not suit them at all. Hence the determination to boycott the regular lines. In fixing the rate at 25 cents, the 'pool' did no more than revert to the old figures, and any charge of an extortionate tariff could not therefore be sustained against them. Especially, as we understand, it has been found by long experience that that was the only workable and paying basis to the shipowners." The harmonious arrangement does not appear to have lasted for any length of time. The opposition of the shippers proved so irresistible that the shipowners found themselves compelled to accede to the demands of the rice dealers and the conference rate became a dead letter. With the Chinese exporters masters of the situation, the freight rate was reduced once more to 20 cents a picul and there the matter stood for a time. But only for a time, because it was found that the regular vessels on the route could not be run on the terms in force. Consequently, it was decided to increase the tariff not to its old figure of 25 cents a picul but to 30 cents, which seems to have exasperated the shippers to such an extent that they decided to dispense with the services of the old-established carriers and charter vessels on their own account. With a plethora of tramps seeking engagements at any reasonable price, the Haiphong people easily managed to secure their end and they have already closed with two vessels, a Swedish and a Norwegian steamer. So far the fight has gone in favour of the Chinese merchants, but

there is more to be considered than the mere carriage of rice from Haiphong to Hongkong. There is the question of return cargoes to be weighed, for if the entrants in the trade have to bring their vessels back to Haiphong in ballast the venture may prove to be an exceedingly costly one for them. Therein lies the power of the three shipping firms against whose interest the boycott has been instituted. If the boycotted shipowners find it unprofitable to trade at the rates which the Haiphong merchants seek to enforce it is somewhat difficult to see how outsiders will be able to do so. But that is their outlook, that is to say it is the outlook of the charterers who have agreed to pay a lump sum of \$5,000 a month for the use of the steamers. It will be interesting to learn what the belligerent rice merchants at Haiphong will be called upon to pay on the average per picul, for the conveyance of their rice to Hongkong, after the three months' experience they are embarking upon.

A FRIENDLY AGREEMENT.

It is a well-known fact that the work of the French authorities on the borders of Tonkin and Yunnan, especially in connection with the construction of the railway in that region, has been greatly hampered and harassed by the activity of Chinese revolutionaries. It was only last year that a band of Chinese revolutionaries who had been attempting without success to raise disturbances in Kwangsi and Yunnan sought safety on French territory where they indulged in their favourite pastime of brigandage. The pursuing Chinese forces were compelled to remain on the boundary line while the revolutionaries could afford to ignore their existence. Eventually there was a conflict between the French and Chinese troops which might have ended disastrously and led to an international question being forced on the parties had not wise counsels prevailed. We read now that a treaty has been arranged between France and China respecting the main questions involved, so that there is little likelihood of fresh causes of complaint under this head cropping up in the future. The treaty or agreement is in most respects similar in its terms to those already existing between the United Kingdom and China, and the only wonder is that it has not been adopted before this time. We are told that it consists of five articles, under the second of which "the French authorities undertake to put down sharply every kind of revolutionary and anti-social agitation—especially as regards printed matter—directed against the Chinese Government in Indo-China. The leading agitators will be deported or expelled." That summarised version is rather vague, for it would seem to mean that the French authorities were to take a hand in punishing revolutionaries who were deemed suspects by the Chinese Government. We cannot believe that the summary properly conveys the terms of the article in question, but simply publish it as it appears in a Shanghai contemporary. The third article "provides for the disarmament and confinement of Chinese revolutionaries taking refuge in French territory. After a while such revolutionaries will be deported from the Colony upon due notice of the fact being given to the Chinese Government—the latter to bear all the expense. Measures will be taken to prevent them from returning to the Colony." Here again there is an indefiniteness regarding the precise measures which the French Government will take in the event of political exiles seeking shelter on French soil. With regard to the fourth article, the French Colonial authorities will be directed to surrender to the Chinese Government all refugees criminals guilty of what the law of China considers to be brigandage or piracy. Should the criminals plead that they are political offenders, a searching inquiry will be made to prevent them from escaping punishment under this plea. Probably that means that the law of extradition will be followed, and should a *prima facie* case be made out against the alleged offender he will be handed over to be dealt with by the Chinese authorities. Under the fifth article it is stated that "both Governments agree to stop the contraband trade in arms on the frontier. It is confidently expected that the Chinese revolutionaries will take note of the treaty, and will forbear from passing into French territory, now that they know what is in store for them." That is how the quotation appears, but the second sentence is probably merely an independent comment and not an integral part of the treaty. At all events, the treaty, if followed to the letter, should prevent a recurrence of those incidents which have previously led to a distinct coolness in the relations existing between the two Governments. The question now is where will these revolutionaries proceed when they are in danger of their lives. The answer seems to be Hongkong, so that the work of the authorities in this Colony is likely to be greatly increased when the season of rebellion arrives.

WHERE LORD WILLIAM CECIL'S COLLEGE SCHEME FAILS.

(20th April.)

Much has been written on the subject of the proposed establishment of a University in Hongkong and the effect it would in all probability exert as a competitor of the University for which Rev. Lord William Cecil has been appealing for support from the people of Shanghai. As it has been definitely laid down that the Hongkong University would be entirely unsectarian and open to all races and creeds its boundless possibilities as contrasted with a college which would largely devote its attention to

the inculcation and propagation of Christianity are plainly manifest, and the best informed opinion is decidedly on the side of the Hongkong scheme. As if to emphasise the merits which it may be assumed the local University would possess over any rival denominational institution established in China, a notice issued by the Chinese Government is distinctly worthy of attention. The notice in question applies to Chinese students studying in foreign schools which are under the management of foreign teachers in Chinese territory. It seems that Chinese graduates have certain privileges in the way of exercising the franchise in provincial assemblies. The Chinese graduates of two colleges in Foochow city applied for permission to vote and the response was to the effect that "Colleges established by foreigners in China will be regarded as *not* by the Board of Education." In commenting on the uncompromising tone of that decision or ultimatum the *N. C. Daily News*, which we take it, has inside knowledge of the circumstances which led to this decree being issued, said: "To the man in the street the subject does not appear to be one of much interest, few references to it having, as yet, appeared in the native press. But to those interested in educational extension it is a question of supreme importance, and one that will not fall, sooner or later, to provoke a considerable amount of discussion. The full significance of the step taken has not been realized, perhaps, even by those who are most affected by it. To disfranchise all graduates of foreign schools is a drastic step indeed; and while in the actual condition of China the grievance of disfranchisement is somewhat partial in its incidence, it must tend to be felt more and more as the provincial assemblies spread. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Government's prohibition should be provocative of keen resentment among those who now find themselves placed on a level with persons of no character and of little or no education." The underlying idea appears to be that as schools established by the Chinese Government for the benefit of Chinese students are increasing in number, the foreign institutions should be placed at a disadvantage in the matter of conferring on the graduates of the latter the right to have a voice in the selection of representatives at the provincial assemblies. Now, how would such a decree affect the native students whose names were enrolled on the list of those attending such a college as that contemplated by Rev. Lord William Cecil and his supporters? It would mean that at a time when the cry for popular institutions is being heard throughout the length and breadth of the Empire, when a constitution has been granted those students or graduates would find themselves outcasts in the political life of China. On the other hand take the case of Hongkong. It should not be forgotten that the announcement of the Board of Education is unmistakably precise; it is concerned with "colleges established by foreigners in China" alone; it does not refer to colleges established by foreigners in Hongkong, because that would also include those places of learning in the United States and in the United Kingdom to which the wealthier classes send their sons. It would be ridiculous to suppose that the Chinese Government would penalise the Chinese students who had graduated at Cambridge or Oxford, Harvard or Yale and impose upon them such disabilities as would prevent their intervening in questions affecting the constitution of the provincial assemblies. Such a policy would render the Board of Education and the Chinese Government the laughing-stock of the nations, and, indeed, put a premium on crass ignorance and fortuitous faculty. It would inspire those graduates of enlightened Western colleges of education with a hearty contempt for those responsible for administering the affairs of the Empire, and finally induce the enlightened section of the population to give up in supreme disgust any hope it might have of contributing towards the regeneration of the Middle Kingdom. So that when we submit that this decree affects merely the graduates of foreign colleges established in China we maintain that our reading of the order is the correct one. In that case, students attending at and graduating from a Hongkong University would be placed under no ban as regards their exercise of any franchise in connection with provincial assemblies that might exist, whereas the Christian colleges at such places as Shanghai and Canton, and other places would have seriously to reconsider their position. Otherwise it might be urged that they were in fact robbing the students who had been beguiled into attending them of their electoral rights. So with such an establishment as that suggested by the persons and "unco guid" who pin their faith to the principles enunciated by the noble and revered lord who has been touring China in the endeavour to enlist sympathy with his scheme. The decree, indeed, would seem to be another argument in favour of the Hongkong University as against the Christian college at Shanghai or elsewhere in China proper. At the same time we must not disguise from ourselves the fact that Lord William Cecil's pet proposal has powerful backing. The very fact that it is a sectarian or, at all events, a Gospel movement will undoubtedly influence a very large and important section of the well-meaning but too often shortsighted community who hold the principle of proving their faith by works—an excellent principle in itself, but one that has to be considered in connection with local and national conditions; while the additional fact that the movement is being engineered and fostered by one of the Cecil will also at

tract the support of many worthy people, especially in England, where the old saw that an Englishman dearly loves a lord still holds good. If the Hongkong University is to become an accomplished fact it therefore behoves the wealthier members of the Colony, both European and Chinese, to remember that Mr. Mody's audacious offer to provide for the erection of the buildings is only supposed to be open until the end of June. If the necessary funds are not in sight by that date Mr. Mody would be perfectly justified if he withdrew his offer, although we do not believe for a moment he would follow such a course. Still it is up to the people of Hongkong and those on the mainland whose sons would take advantage of such an institution to recognise the generosity of a liberal-minded citizen by responding to the call for funds according to their means.

HOW BRITISH EXIGENCIES MAY AFFECT CHINESE FINANCE.

Ample evidence has been adduced to show that the revenue of the United Kingdom for the past year has seriously declined owing to a variety of causes, one of the chief of these being the introduction of old age pensions. That measure had been promised by the opposition for 20 years past but it was left to the present Government to put into practice what will undoubtedly prove a beneficial scheme of social reform whose value has already been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt. That the Chancellor of the Exchequer will be sore put to it to find a solution to the difficulties with which the Ministry is faced in consequence of this reform is a matter of common knowledge, but who would fancy that as the result of the passing of the Old Age Pensions Act in the United Kingdom the currency of China and India may materially benefit? As everybody is aware, the bugbear of finance in the Far East and the crowning factor in the trade between foreign merchants and Chinese dealers are the continual fluctuations in the value of silver. Many suggestions have been made with the object of limiting the range of these fluctuations in the price of the white metal, but the market has been so dominated and swayed by Indian requirements that it has been found practically impossible to realise the aim of those who wish to see a happier era in the financial position inaugurated. It has also been held that one of the principal deterrents to the adoption of a uniform silver currency in China has been the liability of the silver market to swing pendulum-like at any time so that the efforts of those who would seek to give effect to the terms of the Mackay treaty have been rendered absolutely nugatory. This to do with the deficiency in the British revenue and the system of old age pensions which came into force in the beginning of this year? What matters it to China whether Great Britain adopts the most socialistic tendencies and introduce legislation which results in the amelioration of the poor? According to the Allahabad *Pioneer* the connection is very marked. Of course, the *Pioneer* regards the question as it affects the interests of India, but what affects that Empire is bound in course of time to be reflected in the currency of China. The *Pioneer*, which is a semi-official paper, declares: "Private information shows that a project is being considered for the revival of Lord Goschen's scheme for 100s. notes secured on a silver basis, thus providing facilities for the payment of old-age pensions, and at the same time extinguishing the appalling deficit now shown. The United States are considering a similar project. The adoption of the scheme would result in silver to above the face value of the rupee. Lord Morley has promised that in such an event he will raise the rate of exchange in order to prevent rupees being melted down as bullion." In conclusion the *Pioneer* points out, the enormous effect the restoration of the value of rupees would have upon the industrial life of India. The importance of such a proposal to China cannot be over-estimated. It is tantamount to a revolution in the silver currency market, for it means that China would be enabled to purchase increasing quantities of British products, while it need not necessarily have any serious effect on the exporting trade of the Middle Kingdom, although, of course, the entire conditions at present existing in that respect would be altered. With Great Britain as a buyer of silver to secure the ten shilling bank notes the situation would be immediately changed for the better so far as those dealing in dollars are concerned, and if the United States have any similar project in view there is a possibility of the white metal being automatically standardised. What authority our contemporary has for the suggestion that Lord Goschen's scheme, or a modification of it, is being considered by the Imperial Government it is impossible to say, but holding the position it does in the official world of India it is unlikely that a journal of its standing and reputation would give publicity to a vague and unsubstantiated report, with no background of truth to sustain it. The great fact is the practically unconscious relationship which exists between the domestic policy of the United Kingdom and the financial interests of the Chinese Empire.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

(22nd April.)

Having regard to the remarks made by the chairman at the recent annual meeting of shareholders of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., with special reference to the competition in Japan, it will be observed that the rivalry obtaining in Hongkong against

the industry in Japan is closely watched by the vernacular journals. In its unusually well informed columns devoted to commercial matters the *Japan Chronicle* mentions the fact that as has been repeatedly stated the sugar industry in Japan proper is reduced to a very trying position on account of the heavy taxation. The *Hochi* credits a certain sugar merchant with the following naïve suggestion to relieve the industry:—"Whenever the quotation in Japan for sugar of the 4th quality goes up beyond ¥18 per picul, Hongkong sugar soon enters into competition and forces down the market to below ¥18. The original cost of sugar of the 4th quality produced in Japan is about ¥18, including the excise. In these circumstances the sugar refining business in Japan cannot subsist by the exercise of ordinary business methods. This encourages the smuggling of crude sugar by making false declarations as to weight or degree of refinement. For this reason, if the Customs authorities become strict to enforcing the duty on crude sugar, the sugar-refining industry will be killed at once. What has reduced the sugar-refining industry in that country to such a trying position is the existing conventional tariff on refined sugar. The gentleman interviewed declares that these tariffs are extremely unfair." The duty on the crude second quality of sugar is ¥2.25 per 100 kins, on the third quality ¥2.40 and on the 4th quality ¥2.75, the last two being refined. The case is made worse by the importation of cheaper Formosan sugar, which is protected by the Government and on which favour is shown in imposing the excise. Owing to the attention of the Government being directed to the matter, the Formosan authorities are correcting their method of imposing a light excise on sugar produced in Formosa, but the yoke of the conventional tariff cannot be removed before July, 1911, when the existing treaties are to be revised. If the sugar-refining industry in Japan is left in its present plight, it may die before 1911. Some measures should be devised for its relief without delay, is the hope expressed. What would be most appropriate at the present moment is the entire reimbursement of Customs duty on crude sugar or the raw material used in refined sugar. The existing law provides for the reimbursement ¥1.05 out of the ¥2.25 Customs duty imposed on crude sugar. This is in order to protect the Formosan sugar industry. Formosa sugar already receives liberal protection in favour shown in the imposition of excise, and there is no need of any additional protection. The loss of revenue to Government from the total reimbursement of Customs duty on crude sugar would not exceed ¥600,000, which is a trifling amount in the Government finance, but it would enable Japanese sugar refiners to lower the price of their sugar to ¥17.70 and thus check the importation of foreign refined sugar. If this is done, the industry in Japan will be saved from destruction. In other words, what this merchant proposes is that the Government should evade the Conventional tariff by a little sleight of hand. He does not seem to think that it would be wrong to evade the Treaties in this way. That the fortunes of the Hongkong refineries depend very largely upon the action of the Government in Japan is a fact admitted by those who are more immediately connected with the industry which is not without far-reaching effects upon the prosperity of the Colony.

MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

CHINESE COMMISSIONER EXPECTED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 16th April.

H. E. Ko Yu Him, the Special Commissioner appointed to conduct negotiations with the Portuguese Government on the question of the delimitation of Macao, despatched a telegram to Canton yesterday, advising that he would be a passenger by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Kwangtong* which is due to arrive at Canton about the 19th instant.

AGITATION IN CANTON.

Canton, 21st April.

As the Special Commissioner, H. E. Ko Yu Him, will soon be here to commence his duties in connection with the negotiations with the Portuguese Government on the question of the delimitation of Macao, the Canton Society for the Protection of Boundary Rights has again issued circulars to convene a mass meeting to take place on the 25th instant at the Ming Lun Fong, the principal Assembly Hall in Canton, to discuss matters relating to the question, and to invite public opinion on the best possible manner to assist the Special Commissioner in furtherance of his special mission. In the circular it is pointed out that the delimitation of Macao is a question of the first importance in China's relations to a foreign country and it is the first incident of its kind to occur in the first year of the reign of the new Emperor, Hsuan Tung.

The following were the charges against a stone mason, by name Wong Tsai, who was placed before Mr. J. H. Kemp in the Police Court to-day (17th inst.):—Stealing a quantity of copper, valued at \$5, from the Quarry Bay Shipyard yesterday, and wilfully damaging the steam tug *Yan* to the extent of \$50. According to the evidence Wong Tsai was seen loitering in the shipyard a day or two ago. An attempt was made by Policeman J. T. O'Sullivan to capture him, but without avail. Yesterday afternoon, however, he was landed. The head watchman, Wm. Burton, saw the accused slipping off the brass from the bottom of the tug, which was lying on the slip undergoing repairs. The thief was seized and caught. Inspector Collis charged him, his mother, and also ordered to return to the company, the sum of \$50, which was done. It was stated that the defendant was responsible for about \$300 of copper, which the company had lost during the past few days.

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

CHINA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS.

Peking, 16th April.
The Central Government has decided that the principal point in connection with the delimitation of the boundaries of Macao is the protection of China's sovereign rights.

EMPEROR KWANG SU'S FUNERAL.

DEPARTURE OF PRINCE FUSHIMI.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 16th April.
Prince Fushimi, Japan's representative, has left Yokohama, with his suite, for Chiuwan-tao, en route to Peking, to attend the funeral of the late Emperor Kwang Su as Japan's representative.

His Royal Highness takes with him a number of valuable wreaths.

THE ARMY.

ON FORCED CONTRIBUTION.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 16th April.
The Ministry of War has decided that the people shall not be compelled to contribute towards the cost of the Army.

RUSSIA IN SIBERIA.

CHINESE TO PAY POLL TAX.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 16th April.
Russia is levying a poll-tax on the Chinese in Siberia.
The Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg has lodged a vigorous protest against the action as forming a breach of the Treaty.

The protest has failed in its effect.

EMPRESS DOWAGER'S PRIVY PURSE.

APPROPRIATION TOWARDS PUBLIC PURPOSES.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 16th April.
The Empress Dowager has given instructions that the late Empress Grand Dowager's privy purse, amounting to several million taels, should be appropriated towards public purposes.

NOBLEMEN'S COLLEGE.

PROFESSOR PROPOSED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 16th April.
Russia has recommended Professor Martin to one of the professorial chairs in the Noblemen's College in Peking.

The Central Government has declined the recommendation with expressions of thanks.

MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

NO BRITISH INTERFERENCE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
Sir John Jordan, British Minister in Peking, has notified the Waiwupu that Great Britain will not interfere in the matter of the delimitation of Macao.

ANOTHER RAILWAY.

NANKING-WUHU LINE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
H.E. Viceroy Tuan Fang has memorialized for permission to construct a line of railroad from Nanking to Wuhu.

It is proposed to raise the funds in Kansu and Anhui provinces.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

THE LOAN AGREEMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
The final agreement for the Canton-Hankow Railway Loan is not yet signed.

It is reported that the American Minister in Peking has intimated to the Waiwupu the desire of his

Government to participate in the loan.

MEETING OF VICEROYS.

SIK LIANG AND LEI KING-HEI IN PEKING.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
As both Sik Liang and Lei King-hei, Viceroys designate of the three Eastern Provinces and Yunnan, respectively, happen to be in Peking, it is proposed that they assume the seals of office forthwith.

CANTON-MACAO RAILWAY.

AN EXCLUSIVE CHINESE UNDERTAKING.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
The Waiwupu and the Ministry of Posts and Communications have decided that the Canton-Macao Railway shall be built exclusively by Chinese merchants (i.e., with Chinese capital alone).

In the event of the capital subscribed for the undertaking being insufficient, it is the intention of the Government to make up the deficiency in order to check Portuguese interference.

CHINA MERCHANTS' S. N. CO.

QUESTION OF OFFICIAL MANAGEMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
The Ministry of Posts and Communications has sent for Taotai Mak, president of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co., at Tientsin, to proceed to Peking.

The Ministry is desirous of consulting with him with a view to secure the official control of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co.

[Taotai Mak was one of the Commissioners who was appointed along with H.E. Liang Tzu-yen, now president of the Waiwupu, to welcome the American Battleship Squadron at Amoy last November.—Ed., H.K.T.]

GOVERNOR OF KANSU.

TENDERS RESIGNATION.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
The Governor of Kansu, H.E. Chan Kai-tai, has memorialized to the Central Government tendering his resignation.

EUNUCHS.

PRINCE REGENT'S WANT OF CONFIDENCE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
The Prince Regent has asked the Empress Dowager not to allow the eunuchs to go in and out of the Palace.

PROVINCIAL TREASURIES.

DISCHARGE OF OFFICIALS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 18th April.
Pending the arrival of the special auditors at the different Provinces, a number of officials attached to the Provincial Treasuries will be discharged.

PRATAS ISLAND.

SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 19th April.
Negotiations regarding Pratas Island are nearing an amicable settlement.

It is reported that the Island will be thrown open to commerce and that the Japanese already settled there will be accorded special privileges.

AUSILO-CHINESE BANK.

A PROPOSAL.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 19th April.
The Austrian Minister in Peking has conferred with the Waiwupu regarding a proposal for the establishment of an Austro-Chinese Bank.

VICEROY-ELECT OF YUNNAN.

FAREWELL AUDIENCE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 19th April.
H.E. Lei King-hei, Viceroy-elect of Yunnan, will have a farewell audience of the Prince Regent on the 22nd inst.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN SHANGHAI.

FOREIGN INSTALLATION PROHIBITED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 19th April.
The Ministry of Posts and Communications has telegraphed to Viceroy Tuan Fang directing him to prohibit foreigners from installing wireless telegraph stations at Shanghai.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

DENOUNCED BY GOVERNOR OF KANSU.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 19th April.
The Governor of Kansu has severely denounced the Shanghai Taotai and urged that he be dismissed.

An Imperial edict will be issued, but as the Shanghai Taotai can command great influence it is to be feared that nothing will result from the allegations against him.

OPIMUM PROHIBITION.

SECRET INQUIRY AMONG OFFICIALS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 20th April.
Prince Kung and other anti-opium Commissioners have appointed a number of detectives to go about and ascertain what officials are still addicted to the opium habit.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

MINTING NEW COINS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 20th April.
The Ministry of Finance has decided that the new coins shall be struck at the Tientsin Mint.

THE PRESS.

A USEFUL AGENT TO GOVERNMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 20th April.
The Prince Regent has given instructions to the Grand Council to consider the Press as a useful agent to Government in the administration of State affairs.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

ALLEGATION AGAINST THE OFFICIAL.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 20th April.
With reference to the allegations preferred against the Shanghai Taotai by the Governor of Kansu, an Imperial edict has been issued directing Viceroy Tuan Fang to investigate the charges.

The Shanghai Taotai has wired to Viceroy Tuan Fang to the effect that he would rather submit to the ignominy of dismissal than a transfer elsewhere.

CHINESE IN AUSTRALIA.

IMPOSITION OF POLL TAX.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 20th April.
Lord Li Ching-fong, Minister to the Court of St. James, in a telegraphic despatch to the Central Government, reports that, owing to the increasing number of the unemployed in Adelaide (?), it is proposed to levy a poll-tax of five pounds on every Chinaman.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

THE LOAN AGREEMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 21st April.
England and Germany have come to terms regarding the loan for the construction of the Canton-Hankow Railway (Hunan-Hupeh section).

The agreement will be signed at an early date.

NAVAL CADETS.

100 STUDENTS TO BE SENT ABROAD.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 21st April.
Prince Su and Admiral Sah have decided to send one hundred students abroad for naval training.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

KANSU GOVERNOR'S IMPRISONMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 21st April.
The memorial submitted by the Governor of Kansu denouncing the Taotai of Shanghai, not having been made jointly by H.E. Viceroy Tuan Fang, and immoderate language having been employed by the Governor when alluding to matters of little moment, the Grand Council entertain the suspicion that the Governor's action has been prompted by malice.

THE PRESS IN CHINA.

FOREIGN CONTROL UNDESIRABLE.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 21st April.
Instructions have been issued by the Prince Regent that any publishing house conducted in accordance with the Press Law should not be compelled to close for offences of a trifling character.

It is opined that were the Chinese Press obliged to engage foreigners to conduct it, the measure would be prejudicial to the prestige of the country.

MACAO BOUNDARY QUESTION.

CANTON VICEROY'S DILEMMA.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
H.E. Chang Jen-chun, Viceroy of Canton, has wired to the Waiwupu to the effect that, in the matter of the delimitation of the boundary of Macao, owing to an ambiguous term employed by a former Viceroy in his despatch to the Governor of Macao, he is somewhat in a dilemma.

At the time when the official communication was drafted and despatched, Wen Tsung-yao (now Junior Amban in Tibet) was present in Canton.

His Excellency Chang urges that H.E. Wen should be asked to return to Canton in order to settle the doubt.

KWANG SU'S FUNERAL.

RECEPTION OF FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
The cost of the reception of the representatives of the Foreign Powers at the forthcoming funeral of the late Emperor Kwang Su is estimated at one hundred and fifty thousand taels.

ARMS SMUGGLING.

THE ARREST OF FOREIGNERS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
The Ministry of War has issued instructions to all provinces to the effect that, in the event of any foreigner being found and arrested while engaged in the clandestine trade of arms smuggling into the interior, he is to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty without reference to his Consul.

CONFERENCE IN PEKING.

LATE EMPEROR'S IDEA REVIVED.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
The idea of holding conferences in front of the Palace would have been carried into effect had it not been for the illness and subsequent death of the late Emperor Kwang Su.

The Prince Regent has now decided to give effect to it as soon as the funeral ceremony of the late Emperor is over.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

CHINESE SUBJECTS IN ANNAM.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
The Governor-General of Indo-China categorically denies that Chinese residents have been subjected to harsh treatment in any way.

The Waiwupu is, nevertheless, determined to depute an official to Annam to conduct investigations into the truth or otherwise of the report.

NAVAL REORGANISATION.

THE LATEST PLAN.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
In the scheme of Naval Reorganisation the duties will be divided between Prince Su, Duke Tai, T'ieh Liang, and Admiral Sah.

Prince Su will attend to the drafting of a code of regulations. Duke Tai will be entrusted with the raising of funds. T'ieh Liang will devote his attention to organisation and discipline. Admiral Sah will have the control of the training of naval cadets, and supervise the remodelling of the arsenal at Shanghai (Kiangnan) and Pukien (Foochow).

ADMIRALTY PLANS.

On the 10th inst., the Navy Commissioners, Prince Su, Duke Tai, T'ieh Liang, and Admiral Sah, reported to the Prince Regent the plans which they have drawn up for the reorganisation of the Navy.

It is stated that Admiral Sah will proceed to Great Britain, the United States and Japan to study the constitution of the Admiralty in those three countries.—N. C. D. News.

MOSQUITOES IN SHANGHAI.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL'S CAMPAIGN.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, 22nd April.
4.10 p.m.
The Municipal Council is starting a campaign for the extermination of mosquitoes in the settlement.

SHANGHAI TAOTAI.

ALLEGATION OF INSUBORDINATION.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Shanghai, 22nd April.
4.10 p.m.
A serious quarrel has arisen between the Shanghai Taotai and the Governor of Soochow.

The latter has denounced the Taotai for insubordination and for alleged negligence in the disbursement of public funds.

MONGOLIA AND TIBET.

A NEW DEPARTMENT.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 22nd April.
It is proposed by the Grand Council to create a department for the administration of affairs in Mongolia and Tibet with H.E. Tang Shao-yi as High Commissioner.

A RIVAL TO MACAO.

INTERESTING CEREMONY TO-MORROW.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Canton, 23rd April.
At 10 o'clock to-morrow morning H.E. Viceroy Chang Jen-chun, who will be accompanied by Admiral Li Ching-fong and the Taotai for Development of Native Industries (Chang Hong Tsung) will leave Canton on board the shallow draft steamer Kiang for Whampoa en route for Heung-chow city to take part in the ceremony in connection with the work of development of that city. A steam-launch has been engaged by the promoters of the scheme to convey guests to the scene of the ceremony from Canton. There will doubtless be a large gathering present on the auspicious occasion.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF THE PORT OF HEUNGCHOW.

22nd inst.

The agitation promoted by the gentry and merchants of the district of Heung-shan has at last culminated in the opening of the port of Heung-chow which the promoters of the scheme project should be a rival to the decadent port of Macao. There is little to commend Heung-chow as a prospective commercial mart; the Chinese scheme, to the writer, who is well acquainted with the district and has visited the site on several occasions, is bound to be chimerical. One of the chief reasons for this is that the bay is extremely shallow and only navigable by vessels of the lightest draught; it is at present visited by fishing junk only, and those, too, of not the largest calibre.

As reported by our Canton correspondent, the Viceroy of Canton has proceeded in state on board the river cruiser Kiang Su to Heung-chow to perform the inaugural ceremony in connection with the commencement of work for the creation of Heung-chow into a rival mart. From Hongkong no less than three vessels were chartered and all proceeded to the new port early this morning. Two of the smaller vessels left the harbour at 6.30 a.m. they were the *Messia* and *Liu Fat* which had their full complement of passengers. The *Shun Lee* was also chartered and left the Ping On wharf at 7 a.m. for the occasion. A number of invitations had been issued by the enthusiastic promoters of the excursion. Owing to the inclement state of the weather many would otherwise have availed themselves of the occasion for a visit to the new port remained behind. Messrs. Tsang Hoo-chu, compradore to Messrs. Bradley & Co., and Ip Shun-kun, compradore to Messrs. Roiss & Co., took a leading part in organising the excursion as well as in providing accommodation, etc., for the reception of visitors upon arrival at Heung-chow.

REUTERS' POLITICAL TELEGRAMS.

CESSATION OF GOVERNMENT SUBSCRIPTION.

The following correspondence appears as an appendix to the Chamber of Commerce annual report.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 24th February, 1909.
Dear Sir,—I am directed by my Committee to inform you of the fact that your Committee has decided to renew the present arrangement with the Chamber for Reuters' Telegram Service.

Further, I am directed to convey to you my Committee's wish that, in the event of your inability to agree upon terms for the future service you will do them the favour of acquiescing in whatever arrangements are made.

My Committee feel that the public are entitled to an efficient service and would like to be satisfied on that point.—I am, &c., E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

J. V. V. Vernon, Esq., Agent, Reuters' Telegram Company, Limited, Present.

REUTERS' TELEGRAM COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, 18th February, 1909.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your communication of this date and in reply beg to inform you that I am not prepared on behalf of Reuters' Telegram Company to renew the present agreement for political telegrams, until such time as I have communicated with the H.K. Office, which, however, I will do at once by letter, or if you prefer it by telegram, need not say that your long connection with these telegrams fully entitles you to expect to receive every consideration. In regard to the renewal of the agreement for news telegrams, I know that Reuters' Telegram Company will do all in their power to meet you more than half way.

I do not understand the last paragraph of your letter; it does not mean to convey that you do not consider the present service efficient; if so I would be glad to know on what grounds, and what exception you take to it.—Yours, &c., J. V. V. Vernon, Agent.

The Secretary, the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, Limited, Present.

Reuters' Telegram Company, Limited, Hongkong, May 1st, 1909.

Dear Sir,—In reference to your correspondence of the 18th February last concerning a renewal of your agreement for Reuters' political telegrams, I now beg to advise you that in reply to my letter to the Head Office, dated 19th February, I am instructed to say that although the Company has hitherto, with some slight better terms in face of the low ruling exchange, they are willing to renew the agreement which has always existed between the Chamber and themselves, to renew the agreement if you so wish. I now submit an extract from the letter referred to above, and to request that you will let me know as early as possible whether you decide to renew the agreement.

After duly considering the question in all its aspects we feel that we cannot do better than adhere to your suggestion of renewing the agreement with the Chamber of Commerce. They have been throughout friendly customers of the Company, which in its turn has every desire to reciprocate their good feeling. Consequently, while the present extensive service entails considerable burdens on the Company, we are prepared to take into consideration the Chamber's plea that it is not in a position to increase its subscription, which we had hoped to enjoy some advantage in the new contract. If, therefore, you are prepared that any increase of subscription on their part would expose them to a real sacrifice we are prepared to regard our long-standing relations to forego any increment, and to renew the contract on the present basis of payment. In thanking you in advance for your good offices we beg to convey to the Chamber the expression of our lively regards, and of the pleasure it will give us to continue the long-standing amicable relation between the two bodies.—I have, &c.,

HERBERT DE REUTER, Managing Director.

Awaiting your reply.—Yours faithfully,

J. V. V. VERNON, Agent, Hongkong, The Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 29th July, 1908.

Sir,—I am directed to ask that you will be good enough to place the following before His Excellency:—

For many years Reuters' telegrams have been issued by the Chamber, and such arrangement has, so far as can be ascertained, given satisfaction to all parties concerned.

My Committee would deeply regret the severance of connections so long maintained, and the withdrawal of the Government's subscription would seem likely to bring this about. In normal times the "Subscriptions" fall short of the cost of publication, and the Chamber has to face a small loss. The withdrawal of the Government's subscription of \$131 per annum would mean increasing the loss to an amount which my Committee would not feel justified in asking the Chamber to bear.

Before finally deciding not to continue the agreement with Reuters, my Committee venture to place the situation before His Excellency in the hope that the Government may, after all, decide to continue their subscription.—I am, &c., E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 19th August, 1908.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 29th ult., I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Governor regrets that he is unable to place the Chamber's subscription before His Excellency the Governor for his consideration. In October, to discontinue the Government subscription to Reuters' Telegram Company as from the 1st of next November.—I am, &c., F. H. MAY, Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, The Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 8th September, 1908.

Sir,—In continuation of my letter to you of 29th July and your reply of 29th August on the subject of Reuters' Telegrams

GRAIN IMPORTERS FIGHT SHIPOWNERS

THE PROGRESS OF THE STRUGGLE.
It will be interesting to watch the progress of the struggle. So far as we have been able to ascertain, there is no likelihood of the Conference giving way under the pressure of the opposition, whose strength and determination cannot be treated with too much levity. On the other hand, the "pooling" firms have quite as strong staying power and with the

PROMOTING TRADE RELATIONS.

A TOKIO despatch, of 10th inst., to the N. C. D. News reports:—Over 200 Koreans are reported to have invaded the Chinese government bureau in Chientao in order to lay complaint against the conduct of the Chinese troops who, it is said, had apprehended the Korean leader and had injured a few recalcitrant Koreans. The Japanese authorities are said to have interfered, handed back the Korean chief and persuaded the Koreans to disperse. The authorities in Tokio deny that Japan has made large concessions in the matter of Chientao as an offset to their unyielding attitude on the Yekumetsu railway question.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed
by Correspondents in this column.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

WANCHAI.

ARREST OF A GANG OF FACE SLASHERS.

COW STEALER FINISHED

DETECTIVE.

One of the villagers of Sam Tong U, near Sham-shui-pu, was badly treated the other night. A man, who was captured later and gave the name of Ho Sau, broke into an out-house owned by a woman on the night of the 14th instant, and stole two of her cows. He took them to Yau-mai, sold them to a butcher, who in turn disposed of them to somebody else, and eventually the animals found their way to the slaughter-house. When the thief was discovered on the following morning, the old lady, without invoking the aid of the police, set out herself to investigate the matter. Her first impulse was to visit the slaughter-house, and find them, and then she did, with good result. She found the two cows and had been slaughtered. She identified the carcasses, called in the police, and the thief was captured. Ho Sau was found guilty by the Magistrate, and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. He kept at the Magistrate's jail Saturday, and was released on 4th month imprisonment.

HEADMASTER'S VALEDICTORY LETTER

to the Yellow Dragon, the school's

To the boys of all classes I would say. It is not so much the amount of knowledge that you store away in the remote cells of your brain (though this is not to be despised), which will prove of greatest value to you in after life as the habits you acquire of calm, logical, reasonable and often unselfish, to encourage and help

WHEN LUCK FAILS.

17th inst.

**JAPAN SUGAR REFINING
COMPANY.**

MEETING OF CREDITORS.

A meeting of creditors of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company, after repeated post-

After some discussion the meeting agreed to adjourn the proceedings to to-day, the 8th instant, in order to give the creditors time to discuss and consider the matter.—*Japan Chronicle*.

REPUBLICAN FINCH

ACCUSED OF SUPPLYING INTOXICATED

On entering a conviction, his Worship remarked that he had taken into consideration the fact that the offence was practically non-existent in the Colony, and, therefore, he would deal with the defendant leniently. He would pay a fine of \$25.

On the 11th of January, 1907, the Chinese Minister at London, Mr. Wang, presented to the British Foreign Office a note in which he stated that the Chinese Government had received information from the Japanese Government that the Japanese Government had proposed to the Chinese Government that the Chinese Government should send a delegation to visit the Japanese Islands, and that the Chinese Government had agreed to do so. The Chinese Government had also received information from the Japanese Government that the Japanese Government had proposed to the Chinese Government that the Chinese Government should send a delegation to visit the Japanese Islands, and that the Chinese Government had agreed to do so. The Chinese Government had also received information from the Japanese Government that the Japanese Government had proposed to the Chinese Government that the Chinese Government should send a delegation to visit the Japanese Islands, and that the Chinese Government had agreed to do so.

(a) Black sugar in barrels.....Y2 per 100 kin,
(b) Other qualities.....Y3 per 100 kin.

By the amendment quality No. 1 has been classified as No. 2, and the excise on black sugar in barrels has been increased to Y3.75 per 100 kin. This alteration will greatly benefit producers of sugar in Luchu, Oshima, (Kagoshima-prefecture) and the Bonies, and at the same time the poorer classes, who use black sugar, will also be benefited. The total annual consumption of black sugar in Japan is about 70,000,000 kils, and the amendment of the law will result in a saving of about 100,000,000 Tls. 700,000 yen annually. By this measure the sugar industry in Luchu, which was threatened with extinction owing to the heavy tax, will be re-

vived. _____

ACCIDENT TO CYCLIST.

At about half-past nine yesterday morning, Mr. Howell was riding his bicycle along Con-
stantine street, in the direction of the eastern
direction. Near the Wing Lee Street crossing,
a truck which was in charge of a number
of men was seen moving in the opposite
way. The complainant was going at a
slow pace, and when he thought he would
clear the truck, the coolies, either to pass in
front of him or to get out of the way of a tram-
car, suddenly turned round and the complainant
could not pull up in time, and struck the
truck. The force of the collision threw him off, landing
on the truck. Mr. Howell was seriously hurt
about the feet. Soon after the accident Ser-
geant Blackman arrived on the scene and later
had the truck taken to No. 7 Police Station.
In the evening the defendant called to claim
the vehicle, and was arrested. His excuse to
the police was that he was being followed and
propelled too fast and he could not get up in
time. His Worship ordered defendant to pay
a fine of \$10, or to suffer three weeks' impris-
onment.

Comment: _____

VOLCANIC ERUPTION IN THE
HOKKAIDO

REPORT BY EXPLORING PARTY

A Sapporo dispatch reports that Mr. Imamura, a police inspector, accompanied by a party, ascended Tarumaye-san, a volcano in the Hokkaido, to report on the eruption: which had been going on for some time. They returned on the night of the 4th instast, and reported that the seat of the present eruption is at the north-west of the crater which was last active in 1799. Smoke was rising rapidly from the new crater, and the party was unable to ascertain definitely its site, but it seemed to be about one-third of a mile in diameter. A sound like that made by boiling water was heard in the crater, from which smoke was issuing at various points. Two holes had been formed on the edge and smoke was being blown from them. A large number of stones had been thrown from the crater, some of them measuring about 9 feet in diameter. On the 30th ultimo ashes were violently thrown out. Since January 23rd the volcano has broken out into eruption five times. The loudest report was heard on February 10th.

PROPOSED CHANGES

EXHIBITION.

According to Chinese reports, a scheme is on foot to hold an Industrial Exhibition for the southern ports (Nanyang) under the auspices of the Viceroy at Nanking, and regulations have been drawn up for the project. In connection with this proposed exhibition a co-operative association has been formed in Shanghai to assist in ensuring the success of the scheme. On the 1st instant the co-operative association held its opening meeting in the building of the International Recreation Club near a Bubbling Well Road, at which the other local dignitaries, members of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and other corporations were present. Several speeches were delivered by the chairman and others who dwelt on the advantages and necessity of holding exhibitions in China of which the scheme in question will be a leading example.—*N. Y. D. News.*

A RICKSHA coolie, who, through sheer carelessness, knocked down a boy, with the shafts of his vehicle at West Point last Saturday, was ordered to pay the lad fifty cents compensation when the boy was playing in the street, when the ricksha struck him on the chest, bowling him

Bank Shroff Convicted.

LENIENT SENTENCE IMPOSED.

END OF THE HONGKONG BANK EMBEZZLEMENT CASE.

Considerable interest was manifested in the trial, which took place last Monday morning, at the Criminal Sessions, of Leung Kwai Leung, alias Leung Pak Shun, who was indicted on two charges—larceny and embezzlement. The prisoner pleaded "guilty" to both counts, and a plea for mercy was entered. Leung Kwai Leung was once a shroff in the employ of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the charges on which he was arraigned were (1) that on the 3rd of June, 1905, he stole \$10,747.71 in cash and (2) embezzled \$40,000, the property of the Bank.

When asked to plead to the charges, the prisoner stated that he was at fault. He left the matter in the hands of the Court, and begged for leniency.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C. (Attorney-General) with whom was Mr. Donnelly, J., of the Crown Solicitor's office, said that that was a plea of guilty.

Mr. H. G. Calhoun (for the defence) believed that the prisoner intended to plead guilty, and asked permission to interview his client. This was allowed, and a few minutes later, the prisoner was asked if he had anything more to say. "I did sign the matter," he remarked, pressing both hands together as if in prayer. "All went through my hands. I am at fault, and I would ask your Lordship to deal with me leniently."

The Attorney-General then outlined the particulars of the case for the information of the Court. The prisoner, he stated, was one of a large number of shroffs in the employ of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He was not the head shroff, but a subordinate. On June 3rd, 1905, one Lo Lim Shun went to the Bank to deposit \$50,747.71 on behalf of the Inspector-General of the Imperial Chinese Customs. The money comprised \$10,747.71 in notes and coins and a cheque for \$40,000. This money was handed to the prisoner together with the paying-in book. The prisoner had the cheque noted as good and went through the usual formalities, signing the paying-in slip, and returning it to the depositor. That large sum was then in the prisoner's possession. So far as the cash was concerned, he ought to have handed it over to the Note Shroff, while the cheque would have been placed into a box, from which it would have been taken out in due course by the proper person. Instead, the prisoner kept the cash. The cheque, which was made payable to bearer, he handed to another man, who cashed it, and the prisoner disappeared. The shortage was soon discovered, and defendant was traced to Shanghai, where he was arrested.

Counsel for the defence then addressed the Court. He remarked that the way in which so large a sum came into the hands of the prisoner was as follows:—The Tai Hang Bank, while a large sum of money and a cheque (payable to bearer) to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which the prisoner received. After the usual formalities had been gone through, and the depositor had gone, the prisoner turned round to count the cash and found that \$5,000 out of it was missing. He became frightened at what had happened, so he gathered up the whole amount, and went to consult a friend—a most unscrupulous person. He told the friend his story, and this was the "advice" he got:—The friend told him that it was a most important thing for him to do was to keep the balance of the money, and that he (the friend) would assist him in leaving the Colony. The result was that the friend received the greater part of the money (about \$40,000) the prisoner received a few thousand dollars, and went North. He eventually reached Shanghai, where he was arrested.

Mr. Calhoun went on to say that prisoner was a young man. He only about twenty-one at the time of the offence, and he must have been a man of respectable position before he could have entered the Bank. Then came the sudden temptation. He had to account for the \$10,000, and was led away by a person older than himself. It was not a case, he pursued, of a man who had committed a deliberate series of frauds. He asked his Lordship to view the case with leniency. It was, no doubt, a serious offence, but he thought that prisoner's story was true.

The Attorney-General pointed out the section of the Ordinance penalty for the offence was fourteen years, the minimum three.

Sir Francis Pigott (the Chief Justice) in passing sentence, said that he did not regard the offence from the nature of the amount, but the character of the offence and the position the prisoner occupied.

A sentence of five years' imprisonment with hard labour was passed.

Thus ended the April Criminal Sessions.

SIR ROBERT HART.

Sir Robert Hart is expected to arrive back in Peking in the course of July. It is not known how long he is likely to remain.—N. C. D. News.

OPIUM IN SHANGHAI.

DENS IN FRENCH CONCESSION.

The following is a translation of a passage in the minutes of a meeting of the French Council that was held on April 3.

By a letter dated March 29 the Consul-General draws the attention of the Council to the necessity which has arisen upon it, now that the closing of the campaign undertaken against opium dens by the Chinese authorities can no longer be doubted, of taking measures destined to bring about progressively the suppression of those existing in the Concession, until their complete disappearance, within a period which ought not to exceed three years for the International Settlement.

The increase of taxes and the withholding of licences have in eighteen months brought a notable reduction in the number of opium dens; but these measures which had rather a transitory character, no longer suffice to-day. In consideration the proposals of the Consul-General, passes the following resolutions:—

1. From July 1st next, after notification to the parties interested, lots will be drawn among the remainder of which fifty per cent. of the smoking places that do not contain ten couches (which actually number 300), will be closed.

2. This measure, having brought about the disappearance of 150 establishments, the lots will be spread over the remainder of the year in the same category, and twenty-five other large establishments, in their turn, will have to give up business from December 31, 1909.

3. Special measures will be taken ultimately for the closing of shops where opium is sold for smoking at the same time that this matter is taken up by the International Settlement, and the Chinese City.—N. C. D. News.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirty-sixth ordinary yearly meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., was held at their head office, No. 2, Queen's Building, at noon, to-day, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, together with statements of accounts, to 31st December, 1908, and of declaring dividends, &c. Mr. E. Ormiston presided. There were also present:—E. Ormiston (chairman), W. Helms, E. G. Barrett, J. W. C. Bonnar, A. Forbes (directors), C. Montague Ede (secretary), O. H. Ross, A. B. Rouse, F. Maitland, D. B. Murray, O. E. H. Beavis, F. B. Deacon, W. L. Fattenden, C. G. S. Mackie, W. Hutton Potts, H. F. Carmichael, D. G. Gardner, R. L. Crofton, E. B. H. Crofton, H. Crofton, L. Robert E. George, S. G. Newall, F. P. Heit, and L. Berlingo.

After the Secretary read the notice calling the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen, I propose with your permission to follow the usual procedure and take the Report as read. It has been in your hands for some weeks and has no doubt been carefully studied by you. In order to make a true comparison between the 1907 figures now before you and those of 1906, presented last year, you must bear in mind the fact that the 1907 figures are a further year's account for the whole increase in our Premium Income of \$19,000; it is therefore more apparent than real. Although trade was greatly depressed, the year was as profitable as could be expected; in fact, if you compare our figures with those published by Companies of the same magnitude as ourselves you will, I feel sure, come to the conclusion that your interests have been very well cared for. We have a divisible balance of \$580,000, and your Directors propose to deal with as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of \$17 per share on account of 1907, making the full dividend for that year \$47 and to carry forward the large balance of \$450,000 to Underwriting Suspense Account, which figure I can assure you is more than ample to provide for any possible losses. It has been our practice in past years, as far as was humanly possible, not to underestimate losses and this plan has been adhered to as regards the year now being dealt with, but as our new system of working has only been in force since the beginning of 1906 it is difficult to foretell with accuracy what the third and fourth year's settlements will amount to. We have therefore deemed it wise to provide an additional margin of safety over estimates by carrying forward, in a liquid form, a larger amount than at present seems necessary, instead of placing it to Reserve Fund, and I feel sure that this policy which is dictated by prudence will meet with your cordial approval. The figures for 1908 as shown in the Report are satisfactory as far as they go. The first year's loss settlement shows a decrease of one per cent. as compared with the previous year and we feel that we can quite safely recommend the declaration of a further dividend of \$10 per share on account of 1908 and the payment of a bonus of 20 per cent. to contributors. The falling off in takings need give you no anxiety for if you study the published results of the underwriting of many of our Home competitors you will find that those with a reduced premium income have made the best profits, for in a dreadful year such as had just passed when the direct result of bad trade competition ran riot and rates in many directions were cut down below a paying level, careful management dictated that the worst paying accounts should be abandoned, that steps be taken to safety and the maintenance of results such as shareholders in this Society have learned to look for. We have not and need not charge by our notes that they have not been tempted to depart from the wise policy of the Company and engage in a blind search for business at any price, as I am afraid, has been characteristic of the year now gone. There are signs, owing to the disastrous experience of the underwriting world, generally the tendency of rates is upwards; already in certain directions an improvement has taken place and we hope that such improvement will become general. The incidence of Total Losses of first class liners has been one of the features of 1908 and our Reinsurance Fund which was established to provide for just such an eventuality has automatically come into play. The fund has grown steadily during normal years and may be expected to increase again as years go on. To-day it equals our capital. The report before you, gentlemen, is itself a good one and you are to be congratulated on the out-turn of a year which to many others has been not so profitable. You will be glad to hear that we have not forgotten our staff and have voted a bonus of 15 per cent. of a year's salary to the Provident Fund of each member who is in our service at the end of this month. Before proposing the adoption of the Report and Accounts I shall be glad to know if any shareholder wishes to ask any questions.

No questions were asked. The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Ross said:—Gentlemen, I feel sure all of you have listened with the greatest interest to the Chairman's speech, which to my mind is a clear and comprehensive statement of the working of the Society during the periods concerned. After two years, such as 1907 and 1908, years, I may mention, fraught with exceptional difficulties to Underwriters, it must, I think, be particularly gratifying to Shareholders, to find that the Society's experience of the business of the year 1908 permits of the declaration of a dividend of \$10 per share, and that the result of the year 1908 warrants the recommendation of a Bonus of 20% to Contributors. I am glad of the Chairman's assurance that although no addition has been made to the Reserve Fund, further claims have been amply provided for, by the sum which, as he explained, is to be kept in a more liquid form. In view of the period of depressed trade through which the world generally has been passing, and in spite of the counteracting influence of the fall in silver, the maintenance of such a position is, however, that its maintenance has not been at the cost of quality of the business done, as is evidenced by the fact to which attention has just been drawn, that the "Ratio of the first year's loss settlement" of this particularly bad year, is lower than that of the year before. Gentlemen, this augurs well for the future, and I think our best thanks are due to those gentlemen who have so ably supervised the Society's business during these dolorous trying times. The Bonus of 15% of a year's salary to the Provident Fund of each member of the Staff will, I feel sure, meet with your hearty approval. Turning to the front page of the report, I think you will all notice with much pleasure that the name of Mr. W. J. Saunders is now included in those forming the London Committee. The Society owes much to this gentleman, and I feel sure his able counsel will be of much value to the London Board. (Applause.) Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in recommending the adoption of the Report and Accounts as presented to you this day.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The forty-third ordinary meeting of shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd., was held at the head office, No. 2, Queen's Building, this afternoon, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, together with statement of accounts to the 31st December, 1908, and of declaring dividends, &c. Mr. E. Ormiston, chairman of directors, presided. Others present were:—E. G. Barrett, J. W. C. Bonnar, J. W. C. Bonnar, A. Forbes (directors), C. Montague Ede (secretary), O. H. Ross, A. B. Rouse, F. Maitland, D. B. Murray, O. E. H. Beavis, F. B. Deacon, W. L. Fattenden, C. G. S. Mackie, W. Hutton Potts, H. F. Carmichael, D. G. Gardner, R. L. Crofton, E. B. H. Crofton, H. Crofton, L. Robert E. George, S. G. Newall, F. P. Heit, and L. Berlingo.

The Secretary having read the notice of the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the advertised time of the extraordinary meeting being already passed I will now call upon the Secretary to read the notice convening it. For some time past your Directors have had under consideration the existing form of the Society's Memorandum and Articles; these were originally framed over 25 years ago when the prevailing customs were to make the Memorandum of Association as short as possible. The terms of the "objects" clause, usually being confined to a very limited statement of the purpose for which a Company was incorporated and no attempt made to take the many other incidental powers, the occasion for the exercise of which has since frequently arisen. Modern methods are the exact antithesis of the old practice and provide not only such powers as for the time being appear necessary but also such as may possibly be desirable in the future. The revised Memorandum and Articles, which were submitted to you for adoption, embody not only such incidental powers as the present occasion suggests but also such others as the future may call for. As regards the Articles of Association these have been generally modernized and brought into line with the existing practice of the Society in several respects, certain desirable additions made, and some obsolete provisions were unavailably omitted. Your Directors believe that in their amended form the Memorandum and Articles will meet all practical requirements and call for no further alterations for many years to come. Shareholders in all parts of the world outside Hongkong have been given the opportunity of perusing the Memorandum and Articles in their present form and have unanimously approved of them. I will now put the resolution:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society be respectively amended, altered and amended, and that the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

The motion having been seconded, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rouse seconded. The motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ede moved the election of Messrs. C. R. L. Crofton and W. Helms as directors. Agreed.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, this is all the business; dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary general meeting was held after the annual meeting. Mr. E. Ormiston again presided, and the same shareholders were present. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting. The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company have lately been the subject of your Directors' attention. The Company was founded as far ago as 1855, when, what is now deemed an old-fashioned Memorandum of Association was drawn up. The Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., have just passed a resolution with a view of bringing their Memorandum and Articles of Association up to date. It is very convenient that the constitution of this Company should be on all fours with that of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., and it is proposed to give effect to this by the amended form of Memorandum and Articles now before you. I will now put the Resolution:—That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company be respectively amended, altered and amended, and that the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

The motion having been seconded, was unanimously adopted.

CHINESE SAILORS MUTINY.

SHIPPER RESCUED FROM CHINESE CREW.

Armed with knives and belaying pins, 18 contract Chinese sailors, the majority of the crew of the Norwegian steamship *Hendrik* (then, mutated at the long wharf this afternoon, reports an Auckland despatch of 16th inst.) Mr. B. Strandwitz, in command of the steamer, was rescued from a precarious plight by two deputy sheriffs who had been summoned by the Chinese Consul-General.

The arrival of the two peace officers was the signal for actual mutiny. The knives were drawn by the Chinese, who attacked the deputy sheriffs, who were armed with their revolvers and clubs and beat the mutinous crew into submission.

FIGHT CONTINUED IN JAIL. The 18 Chinese were taken to the country jail, where they renewed their conflict. For a few moments there was a hard fight between the Chinese and the jailers.

The crew that mutinied were taken on the *Hendrik* less than a short time ago. The steamer was manned by contract sailors from Shanghai on its first cruise between San Francisco, Australia and the Orient, and all but two of that crew were discharged. These two refused to join the mutiny, but gave Captain Strandwitz information of the plot while at sea. Having signed his crew at Shanghai, Captain Strandwitz crossed the Pacific to San Francisco without unusual disturbance. A month ago the *Hendrik* had returned anchor to gather a "cargo" north of San Francisco.

ILL-TREATMENT IS CHARGED.

Lumber was taken aboard at Europe, and coal at Tacoma. Then the return to San Francisco Bay was begun and the mutiny developed.

The ringleader incited the other 17 seamen to join him because, he said, they were ill treated, underfed, and their pay was held back. Captain Strandwitz and the white officers had trouble with the malcontents, but no attempt at bloodshed was made during the voyage.

Knowing that as contract Chinese, they could not be landed here, Strandwitz sent for the Norwegian and Chinese consuls as soon as he made harbour. This afternoon the Chinese consul-general went to the vessel and warned the mutinous crew that they were under contract and must fulfil it. His advice was disregarded, and Strandwitz solicited aid from Sheriff Barnett.

PIRATES SHIPPED AS CREW.

Strandwitz said to-night that his craft carried a crew of 32 men, 20 being Chinese. To obtain this class of seamen, the vessels go to Shanghai, which has been Strandwitz's recruiting place.

Speaking of the present crew, the Chinese consul-general characterized them as the lowest type of Chinese, drawn from the savage borders of pirates that infest the Chinese coast. It is probable that they will be taken back to Shanghai when the *Hendrik* then sails.

GRAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Tokio, April 14. The authorities in Tokio do not take seriously the rumours emanating from Berlin and Vienna that Japan is weary of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and is inclined to abrogate it. There is no trace of ill-feeling between Japan and Germany, but there is equally no need to look for the motives of such a rumour.

Under the Japanese consent to the holding of an Anglo-Japanese Exhibition in London next year shows that the friendly disposition towards the Alliance and to promote the friendship between the two nations. Both British and Japanese Governments and people.—N. C. D. News.

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The forty-third ordinary meeting of shareholders in the China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd., was held at the head office, No. 2, Queen's Building, this afternoon, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, together with statement of accounts to the 31st December, 1908, and of declaring dividends, &c. Mr. E. Ormiston, chairman of directors, presided. Others present were:—E. G. Barrett, J. W. C. Bonnar, J. W. C. Bonnar, A. Forbes (directors), C. Montague Ede (secretary), O. H. Ross, A. B. Rouse, F. Maitland, D. B. Murray, O. E. H. Beavis, F. B. Deacon, W. L. Fattenden, C. G. S. Mackie, W. Hutton Potts, H. F. Carmichael, D. G. Gardner, R. L. Crofton, E. B. H. Crofton, H. Crofton, L. Robert E. George, S. G. Newall, F. P. Heit, and L. Berlingo.

The Secretary having read the notice of the meeting, the Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the advertised time of the extraordinary meeting being already passed I will now call upon the Secretary to read the notice convening it. For some time past your Directors have had under consideration the existing form of the Society's Memorandum and Articles; these were originally framed over 25 years ago when the prevailing customs were to make the Memorandum of Association as short as possible. The terms of the "objects" clause, usually being confined to a very limited statement of the purpose for which a Company was incorporated and no attempt made to take the many other incidental powers, the occasion for the exercise of which has since frequently arisen. Modern methods are the exact antithesis of the old practice and provide not only such powers as for the time being appear necessary but also such as may possibly be desirable in the future. The revised Memorandum and Articles, which were submitted to you for adoption, embody not only such incidental powers as the present occasion suggests but also such others as the future may call for. As regards the Articles of Association these have been generally modernized and brought into line with the existing practice of the Society in several respects, certain desirable additions made, and some obsolete provisions were unavailably omitted. Your Directors believe that in their amended form the Memorandum and Articles will meet all practical requirements and call for no further alterations for many years to come. Shareholders in all parts of the world outside Hongkong have been given the opportunity of perusing the Memorandum and Articles in their present form and have unanimously approved of them. I will now put the resolution:—

"That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society be respectively amended, altered and amended, and that the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Society to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

The motion having been seconded, was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rouse seconded. The motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Ede moved the election of Messrs. C. R. L. Crofton and W. Helms as directors. Agreed.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, this is all the business; dividend warrants will be sent out to-morrow.

NEW ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary general meeting was held after the annual meeting. Mr. E. Ormiston again presided, and the same shareholders were present. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting. The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the existing Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company have lately been the subject of your Directors' attention. The Company was founded as far ago as 1855, when, what is now deemed an old-fashioned Memorandum of Association was drawn up. The Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., have just passed a resolution with a view of bringing their Memorandum and Articles of Association up to date. It is very convenient that the constitution of this Company should be on all fours with that of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., and it is proposed to give effect to this by the amended form of Memorandum and Articles now before you. I will now put the Resolution:—That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company be respectively amended, altered and amended, and that the Chairman of this Meeting and that such extended, altered and amended Memorandum and Articles of Association be henceforth adopted as the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company to the exclusion of those heretofore prevailing."

The motion having been seconded, was unanimously adopted.

CHINESE SAILORS MUTINY.

SHIPPER RESCUED FROM CHINESE CREW.

Armed with knives and belaying pins, 18 contract Chinese sailors, the majority of the crew of the Norwegian steamship *Hendrik* (then, mutated at the long wharf this afternoon, reports an Auckland despatch of 16th inst.) Mr. B. Strandwitz, in command of the steamer, was rescued from a precarious plight by two deputy sheriffs who had been summoned by the Chinese Consul-General.

The arrival of the two peace officers was the signal for actual mutiny. The knives were drawn by the Chinese, who attacked the deputy sheriffs, who were armed with their revolvers and clubs and beat the mutinous crew into submission.

FIGHT CONTINUED IN JAIL. The 18 Chinese were taken to the country jail, where they renewed their conflict. For a few moments there was a hard fight between the Chinese and the jailers.

The crew that mutinied were taken on the *Hendrik* less than a short time ago. The steamer was manned by contract sailors from Shanghai on its first cruise between San Francisco, Australia and the Orient, and all but two of that crew were discharged. These two refused to join the mutiny, but gave Captain Strandwitz information of the plot while at sea. Having signed his crew at Shanghai, Captain Strandwitz crossed the Pacific to San Francisco without unusual disturbance. A month ago the *Hendrik* had returned anchor to gather a "cargo" north of San Francisco.

ILL-TREATMENT IS CHARGED.

Lumber was taken aboard at Europe, and coal at Tacoma. Then the return to San Francisco Bay was begun and the mutiny developed.

The ringleader incited the other 17 seamen to join him because, he said, they were ill treated, underfed, and their pay was held back. Captain Strandwitz and the white officers had trouble with the malcontents, but no attempt at bloodshed was made during the voyage.

Knowing that as contract Chinese, they could not be landed here, Strandwitz sent for the Norwegian and Chinese consuls as soon as he made harbour. This afternoon the Chinese consul-general went to the vessel and warned the mutinous crew that they were under contract and must fulfil it. His advice was disregarded, and Strandwitz solicited aid from Sheriff Barnett.

PIRATES SHIPPED AS CREW.

Strandwitz said to-night that his craft carried a crew of 32 men, 20 being Chinese. To obtain this class of seamen, the vessels go to Shanghai, which has been Strandwitz's recruiting place.

Speaking of the present crew, the Chinese consul-general characterized them as the lowest type of Chinese, drawn from the savage borders of pirates that infest the Chinese coast. It is probable that they will be taken back to Shanghai when the *Hendrik* then sails.

GRAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Tokio, April 14. The authorities in Tokio do not take seriously the rumours emanating from Berlin and Vienna that Japan is weary of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and is inclined to abrogate it. There is no trace of ill-feeling between Japan and Germany, but there is equally no need to look for the motives of such a rumour.

Under the Japanese consent to the holding of an Anglo-Japanese Exhibition in London next year shows that the friendly disposition towards the Alliance and to promote the friendship between the two nations. Both British and Japanese Governments and people.—N. C. D. News.

EARTHQUAKE IN FORMOSA.

PEOPLE KILLED AND INJURED.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Taipei, 16th April. The earthquake, which happened yesterday (15th inst.) was of more than ordinary violence and resulted in considerable loss of life and much damage to property in the prefecture of North Formosa.

According to the report of the Taihoku Observatory, it happened at 3.54 a.m. on the 15th, and the vibration lasted for 3 minutes, of which a period of 47 seconds was severe and the remaining time hardly perceptible to the ordinary persons. From the same observation, the centre of the tremor is estimated to be about 35 miles north-east of Taihoku, presumably the bed of the sea between Keelung and Giam. The velocity of vibration was 580 millimeters per second, that is, having a force strong enough to crack rudely made brick walls, to pull down old plaster walls, to tumble small bottles and to stop a clock, and therefore it was able to break down the native houses made of mud.

According to the *Taiwan Nichi-nichi Shimpō*, of to-day's date, since the Japanese occupation of the island, there has been only one such violent shaking as the present in North Formosa; it happened at 8 a.m. on 7th June, 1901, when there was only one man killed. By the present earthquake, however, until noon to-day, the report is that a person was killed, 35 wounded, with houses totally destroyed and its damaged. A slight tremor followed soon after the first shock and another at 7.30 the same morning.

ATTACKED BY CHINESE.

ADVENTURE OF AN EASTER HOLIDAY.

An exciting story of adventure among hostile Chinese is related by one of the numerous parties which went up country for the Easter holidays. The story, fortunately, has a happy ending, but how narrowly it missed becoming a tragedy will easily be seen. As related by the *N. C. D. News* of 15th inst., the story reads:—

The party in question consisted of four persons, Mr. D. A. Darling, manager of the Asiatic Petroleum Company in Shanghai, his daughter, Miss Darling, and a friend Miss Stuart, and Mr. F. O. Reynolds, also of the Asiatic Petroleum Company. They started last Saturday on board the twin-screw motor houseboat *Phaenix* (which was described in these columns some little time ago) to visit the Taoh Lake. The trip passed off uneventfully and it was not till Monday, when they had left Soochow on the homeward journey, that adventures began. At Quinsan, as there was abundance of time, the party decided, instead of following the Soochow creek, to take the longer round by the Heuli reach. Unluckily, however, the launch overhauled the right turning and went on in the direction of Taisan. The map seemed to indicate a number of subsidiary creeks by which the *Phaenix* might have regained the main stream. But none of these creeks were the ones they were looking for. At about 3.30 p.m. the party found themselves on the outskirts of a town named Leewo, bordering on the Yangtze.

The creek at this point was blocked with numbers of river junks which had put to, as it subsequently appeared, for some festival, and as the *Phaenix* pushed her way slowly through, several angry cries of "Foreign devil" were heard. Little attention was paid to these, and the *Phaenix* might have escaped by another creek beyond Leewo (which would have brought her back to Kading and thence to Soochow creek) but for the unfortunate fact of a small boat which, clogged her of the necessary depth of water. The *Phaenix* was compelled to turn back among the junks, and here the trouble began.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

By now it was nearly dark and as the *Phaenix* pushed her way slowly through the junks (it is important to notice that only one propeller was damaged) the cries of "foreign devil" redoubled along the banks. A crowd began to follow the *Phaenix*, gathering volume as it went, and mud and stones were flung freely at the party. Mr. Darling had his hand cut, open and Mr. Reynolds was hit on the head, luckily without damage. The ladies had been hurried below, where, with the shutters closed they were for the while in safety. Finally by some means that could not be ascertained in the darkness the *Phaenix* was brought to a standstill and was instantly made fast by the Chinese to a sampans.

The situation looked extremely serious. The *Phaenix* carried four Winchester and one of the party had a revolver. But the disparity of numbers was too great for any question of resistance. By the advice of the launch, who proved himself throughout the adventure the deservedly trusted servant that he is, and exhibited the greatest presence of mind, an attempt was made to parley. The launch left the *Phaenix* to go in search of the local magistrate, having previously sent two of the crew to keep watch fore and aft and warned the remainder of the party to remain out of sight. During the launch's absence the four foreigners made haste to load the Winchester and instruct the ladies of the party in the use of them. The courage shown by Miss Darling and Miss Stuart was very great and they would have made good use of the Winchester had the worst come to the worst. The crowd of Chinese remained watching on the banks, but though one fellow attempted to board the *Phaenix* no actual attack was made.

At about 9.30 the launch returned with the magistrate who declared that the *Phaenix* had damaged a sampans on her way up the creek, and compensation was agreed upon at \$15 on condition that the party might stay till morning or go unmolested as it should think fit.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

The first intention was to remain till morning. But as the night advanced some speakers could be heard in the crowd excitedly arguing that, since the magistrate had been paid, they too might as well have their share of booty. On this it was decided to make a move and at about half-past one o'clock in the morning the *Phaenix* managed to slip quietly away up the creek to Quinsan and eventually arrived in Shanghai, without further misadventure, on Tuesday afternoon. The windows of her pilot house and some of her crockery had been smashed, while her boat-hooks and flagpoles were tilted.

By what the magistrate at Leewo told the launch, it was fortunate that the party behaved so peacefully, as it seems that the originators of the trouble were the junk people, a fierce, irresponsible crowd who had nothing to do with Leewo. Had they been resisted, there is no telling to what lengths they might not have gone and the magistrate would have been powerless to check them. The magistrate also stated that the people of the district bore a grudge against all launches, as a sampans had been run down by a Chinese launch some weeks previously, and the *Phaenix* was the first launch to be visited. Leewo since that accident, the magistrate knew to have acted fairly well in a difficult position. But the whole story is an example of the folly of leaving Chinese officials without adequate means to enforce their authority.

ALFALFA RAISING IN HONGKONG.

DAIRY FARM CO.'S SUCCESS.

The Dairy Farm Company at Hongkong reports success after years of continued failure and disappointment in raising alfalfa. It seems that many have tried to produce this nutritious grass in and about Hongkong, but the tradition sprang up that owing to the nearness to the sea the grass grew feebly and spindling.

Consul-General Wilder got in touch with Mr. W. D. Heard, the American dairy expert, and secured seed from the John Salter Seed Company of La Crosse, Wisconsin, Mr. Wilder's own state. The Dairy Farm people are greatly delighted to report success from this seed and are sending for more. The matter is of wide importance to all South China, which a developed dairy industry would greatly benefit. The Chinese have hitherto relied on using milk, holding that it is sacrosanct and not a secretion, but Chinese from abroad are teaching them by the use of milk what a valuable food product it is; and the tradition is breaking down.—Mandarin Times.

"FENG-SHUI."

Shipyard Labourers.

HOLDERS OF SECRET MEETING ARRESTED.

ADROIT CONFERENCE OF SHIPYARD MECHANICS.

19th inst.

An important meeting which was being held by a large number of native shipyard mechanics at the Chui Nam Hotel, which is situated at 423, and 425, Queen's Road West, was broken up by the police last night, and a number of arrests made. The information that the meeting was in progress was conveyed to No. 1 Police Station by an informer, who had been on the lookout for several days, as the congregation of the mechanics was expected some time last week. It did not come off, however, the belief being that the ringleaders had expected a raid.

Late yesterday afternoon suspicion was aroused by the fact that a large number of men, some of whom were recognised, were seen heading their way to the hotel, which, naturally, attracted the attention of the police. The police then proceeded to the hotel, and a few detectives entered the building. The meeting was in full swing. In the large sitting-room were between five hundred and six hundred men, workmen in the service of nearly every dock company and shipbuilding yard in the Colony. All of them were seated around tables drinking tea, and listening to every word which was uttered by a speaker, who, at the moment, was explaining to the audience the business of the meeting.

The police rushed the room and arrested the speaker and two others, while they seized a number of documents which were found lying on a table. These documents, it is stated, explained the object of the meeting. After the arrests were made, the meeting broke up quietly. Those arrested were—

Wu Cheung, a fitter, of the Quarry Bay Shipyard, residing at 17, Bulkeley Street, Hongkong.

Chu Pak U, timekeeper of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, residing at 101, Market Street, Hongkong, and—

Fung Chan Man, an engineer and cigarette hawk, of 13, Queen's Road Central.

From information gathered by a Telegraph representative, we learn that the meeting was called with the object of establishing a "trade union" amongst the engineers and mechanics employed in the Colony. It was proposed, so we are given to understand, to raise sufficient funds, by subscription, so as to protect members of the proposed guild from any personal difficulty in case of a strike or lock-out. In such a position their claims on employers will receive more attention than they now do.

This morning, at the Magistrate's, the three men were charged with holding a meeting, not being for religious purpose, without sanction of the Government.

The hearing was adjourned.

EFFECT OF RETRENCHMENT IN THE KOWLOON DOCKS.

20th inst.

The trial of the three men—Wu Cheung, a fitter, of the Quarry Bay Shipyard, residing at 17, Bulkeley Street, Hongkong; Chu Pak U, timekeeper of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, residing at 101, Market Street, Hongkong, and—Fung Chan Man, an engineer and cigarette hawk, of 13, Queen's Road Central, who were charged with holding a secret meeting in the Chui Nam Hotel, at 423 and 425, Queen's Road West on Sunday last, without permission of the Government, was opened before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Magistrate's, this forenoon.

The court-room was fairly well filled when the magistrate took his seat shortly after half-past eleven. Nearly every seat was occupied by engineers and fitters, interested parties and sympathisers, who followed the proceedings with great interest.

The reader will recollect that on Sunday afternoon between 500 and 600 Chinese, representing artisans from all the docks and shipbuilding yards in the Colony, met at West Point. Five leaders, and the object of the meeting was to collect subscriptions to form a trade union so as to protect themselves in case of strikes. The meeting was broken up by the police, and the arrests followed.

Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings, who appeared for the defence, said that in order to save time his clients had decided to plead guilty to the charges. He had gone carefully into the facts of the matter and had advised the defendants that they had committed a technical breach of the law. Mr. Dixon here proceeded to relate the facts of the case as they were related to him, adding that if he were not correct, in them the police would arrest him. The meeting, he said, was called by the first defendant by circulars, which were handed to all native engineers in the Colony, and the object was to discuss the possibility of forming a school for the study of engineering. The second and third defendants took no part at the meeting. They attended simply because they had received circulars. They, however, made speeches. There was a very large attendance, including a number of detectives, whose presence was known to the promoters. That was proof that they did not know they were infringing the law. It was true that they did not ask for permission to hold the meeting—that was because they were afraid it would not be granted. The meeting, he went on, was a perfectly lawful one; there were no inflammatory speeches, no mention was made of trade unions or strikes. The object of the meeting was a purely lawful one.

Inspector Robertson, conducting the case for the police authorities, cast a different light on the matter. He stated that some 800 circulars were used to call the meeting, and were signed by the first defendant and another person. There was no mention of a school or a technical institute. What was said was that subscriptions should be collected to defend themselves in strikes.

The Inspector then explained the reason why the meeting was held. Formerly, he said, workmen at the Hongkong Docks were paid double pay for Sunday and night work. There was a new manager in office now and he had decided to cut down the wages to one and a half, and it was on account of that that the meeting was held. The subscription to the union was to be paid at the rate of thirty cents on each dollar, that was to say, that if a man received \$10 a month he had to contribute to the fund \$3 a year, at \$4 a month he would have to pay \$12 per annum, and so on. The cost of the refreshments consumed at the meeting was defrayed by the first defendant.

Mr. Dixon called attention to the fact that the circulars clearly stated that the meeting was called to discuss the question of an engineering school.

His Worship replied that such might be the case, but the other subject was in issue when the circulars were issued.

Mr. Dixon observed that at the meeting there was no mention of fights, and trade unions were quite lawful.

His Worship: Will there be another meeting for you to look up the matter?—Yes.

Mr. Dixon: I don't know.

"Do you know if the Government will grant you permission to hold another?" the Court queried.

"I learn that if to the first instance permission had been asked for the Government would have allowed it," was the answer.

Inspector Robertson was of the same opinion.

Mr. Dixon: If your Worship will adjourn the case *sine die* I will write the Government asking for permission.

His Worship: I would suggest that they write the application.

The case was accordingly adjourned *sine die*, and the decision of the Court rests on the action of the Government so far as permission is concerned.

Among the documents seized by the police in the raid, were two of some importance. One—a little printed slip—was in the character of a "doggerel," or what is popularly known locally as an "Express." It set out that the meeting was for the purpose of discussing the formation of a school for skilled labour employed in the local shipyards.

The second document is on a sheet of foolscap and its contents were in writing. Evidently the composition is the work of a novice in draftsmanship, for the rendering into English is not very intelligible in the literal form. We present, however, as close a reading of it in English as it has been possible to make the translation intelligible.

The document purports to be a comprehensive set of rules for the guidance of members of the proposed labour union, which is throughout referred to as the original as a "school." The translation follows:

"It is proposed to establish a 'school' for the benefit of men engaged in our trade; it is hoped that the institution may last for all time."

"All members may make suggestions. Any member having good regulations to suggest should make them known to other members. If these (good) views are not brought forward they should not promote the public weal. However, if any regulation is found unsatisfactory it can be discussed at meetings and amended there and then."

"It is proposed that all office-bearers shall meet at the 'school' every Saturday evening. Any of our fellow-workers having good suggestions to submit, or other matters concerning the public good, are requested to attend at the school and discuss them with the office-bearers."

"It is proposed that if any of our fellow-workers have not yet heard of the benefits that will be derived from becoming a member of the 'school' and who may come to hear of it, they will be allowed to join the school within the next three months if they should so desire, and shall pay the same fee of \$2 as original members. After the three months have expired the entrance fee will be \$5."

"[Probably, through a clerical error, the following section was numbered "6." There is no clause 5.—Translator's note.]

"If any member should be careless about his work and meet with any accident and have no means to pay for medical treatment, he can come to the 'school' and make a report to the committee who will send a subscription list round to their fellow-workers to collect subscriptions. Upon the return of the subscription list, the 'school' will give the money out first (to the member in need). On pay day the amount of individual subscriptions will be deducted (from each subscribing member's wages). The advance is made as a special favour by the 'school'."

"It is proposed that the 'school' shall issue to each member a book containing the names of the native-places of the members so that there will be no confusion about the surnames. The book will also serve for recording receipts for monthly payments. In case the book is lost, a report must be made to the 'school' when a new book will be issued."

"It is proposed that all members who are not out of work shall make their monthly payments on each pay day. In case they should be unable to pay, they will be allowed three months during which to settle their accounts. Beyond that period of grace whatever payments that might have been made will be forfeited (as a penalty) so as to set an example to others. Members, who happen to be out of work, do not come under this rule."

A MISSING BANK DRAFT.

20th inst.

In the Police Court, last Saturday, Mr. F. A. Hinde, presiding, Tang Wing, a shroff in the employment of a firm at 18, Connaught Road West, figured in the dock on charges of larceny and false pretence. A plea of not guilty was entered, and the case was adjourned until next week, bail being allowed in the sum of \$500.

Detective Sergeant J. J. Watt, who made the arrest, conducted the case on behalf of the police; Mr. Andrew G. Jackson, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, defending.

The story—which lacks confirmation at this early stage—was that some time on the 10th inst. a man named Chan Sing, of the Wal Sang Ua, 70, Des Voeux Road Central, went to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to cash three cheques and a draft. The cheques were received and honoured. The salesman was then directed to another counter to present the draft, which was for £10 and drawn on the Union Bank of Sydney. There he met the defendant, and it is alleged that while waiting to be attended to—he was leaning over the counter—the defendant slipped his hand into the salesman's pocket and extracted the draft. Soon the draft was missed, and while the salesman was turning out his pockets, it is asserted that defendant approached him and offered to return the draft for a consideration—fifty dollars. The salesman offered \$10 and was in the act of handing over the money, when Detective Watt stepped on the scene—having been notified of the robbery—and the shroff was placed in custody.

His Worship, in remanding the case till Tuesday afternoon next, asked if bail was wanted and what sum the defendant could put up.

Mr. Jackson replied—Any amount.

"What sum can he offer?" queried the magistrate. The reply was \$100.

"That's too small," remarked his Worship. Detective Watt stated that defendant had \$1,000 yesterday.

Mr. Jackson: A man with that sum doesn't go stealing drafts.

Bail was eventually fixed at \$500 and the case continued to Tuesday, as already stated.

FOUR men robbing the city at an early hour last Wednesday morning in a suspicious manner, a cattle named "Ban Kah" was taken to the Central Police Station on a charge of being a rogue and vagabond. The man appeared to be a Chinese and had been placed under medical observation.

International Bank.

QUESTION OF LIABILITY RAISED.

SCATHING CROSS-EXAMINATION OF THE CASHIER.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., in the Supreme Court last Tuesday, made a lengthy address in the case in which the Man Lee Chan firm are suing the International Banking Corporation to recover the sum of \$840 in respect of a bill of exchange, which, so it is alleged, the bank paid by mistake.

In this matter it will, perhaps, be remembered, that some months ago the Man Lee Chan firm received a bill of exchange from Vancouver. Several days afterwards the bill was missing, and the bank was notified. It is then alleged that in spite of the notification, the bank, when presented by the thief, to quote Sir Henry Berkeley, was paid.

Sir Henry submitted that the defendants were not protected by the Statute, because the bill they paid did not on the face of it purport to be endorsed by the person in whose favour it was drawn. The bill was drawn in English, payable to a firm named in English "Man Lee Chan and Company."

Mr. Justice Gompertz—Probably it was the only way the bill could have been drawn?

Sir Henry:—Yes, and he went on to remark that the only proper endorsement purporting to be "Man Lee Chan and Company" would be Man Lee Chan and Company.

Mr. Justice Gompertz—And you say if they took any other endorsement they ran a risk?

Sir Henry replied that such was the case. He submitted broadly that a bill drawn in English with a name in favour of the payee on the body of the bill is not proper, in English, in Chinese. If it was, then the onus was on the bank to show that the endorsement in Chinese truly represented the name of the payee.

So far the plaintiffs declared the endorsement of "Man Lee Chan Sing Koo" did not represent them. There was as yet no evidence to the contrary and the Court must not accept that. Defendants should be not-suited on that ground. On the question of *bona fides* his friend (Mr. Pollock) had suggested, if he did not contend, that as far as the Statute went, that element of good faith did not enter into consideration thereof, but was confined to a certain other thing. That, Sir Henry held, could not be supported. If they had not acted in good faith then they could not be protected. When a banker paid a bill within a few days, almost a few hours, after he was informed that the bill had been stolen, if he should not hold by the Court to have acted in good faith, inasmuch as good faith was essential to the protection of either of the Statutes, and that the bank in the circumstances detailed to the Court should not be held to be protected. Carelessness, recklessness, were the first elements of bad faith. Commonsense, which was the law, and the law crystallisation of commonsense, showed that the bank was wrong. When the thief presented the bill they should have notified the Man Lee Chan Company. Had they not been notified that the bill was stolen, if the thief would have been caught, they would have been liable to conversion and liable also to the value of the bill.

Counsel cited authorities at some length. Mr. Pollock opened the case for the defence shortly, after which evidence was called.

Mr. F. Stanley Clarke, cashier of the International Bank, said that as cashier he sanctioned the payment of all drafts. In the case of made payable to Chinese, one of the bank examined the endorsement. In December, 1899, a draft for \$840.

Mr. Pollock—Did the Chinaman say to you the draft was payable?—Yes, the Man Lee Chan.

Did the Chinaman say what had happened to the draft?—Yes, lost or stolen.

Did he say anything more?—Yes, he asked me to stop payment.

What did you do?—I asked for the name and number of the draft and the name of the bank, from which it was issued.

Did the Chinaman return a second time?—Yes.

And what occurred?—I advised him to telegraph his friends asking them to cable us, giving full particulars.

How could they advise you?—It would have to be by wire before it was of any use.

Did you hear from the drawers by wire?—No.

Did you get a letter from them?—Yes.

When was that letter received?—On the 25th January.

When was the draft paid?—On the 6th January.

At the time when the draft was paid witness was ignorant of the number of the draft, the name on the draft, and the name of the bank from which it was issued. No notice in writing was tendered witness in respect of the draft. In order to trace out the draft it would be necessary to go through the register and files. If witness had been informed that the drawers were the Bank of Hamilton, Vancouver, he could have traced the draft. On the day the draft in question was paid there were 300 to 400 other paid also. Every draft given payment was initialled by the head shroff and passed on to witness for the order to pay. When he passed the draft for \$840 for payment he did not in any way connect it with the Man Lee Chan. Asked for a reason why he did not connect the draft with the Chinese firm, witness's excuse was on account of the "pressure of business being so great." In passing the draft he acted in good faith. It did not occur to him at the time that the \$840 draft belonged to the Man Lee Chan.

Cross-examination. When he paid the draft he quite forgot that he had received letters from the Man Lee Chan and Otto Kong Sing, otherwise he would not have paid it. He did not think there was any extreme carelessness on his part in paying the draft. There was a great pressure of business at the time as it was near Chinese New Year. Had he remembered the notice he would have entered a mark of caution in the register, so that when payment was called for his memory would have been refreshed.

Mr. Henry:—Why did you not when you received Mr. Kong Sing's letter, giving you the amount, why did you not tick the register?—Because I could not find the draft.

When did you receive your letter of advice from San Francisco?—On 13th December.

Is not the name Man Lee Chan Company in that advice?—It is.

Now, the Man Lee Chan came to see you on the 24th?—I can't say.

And he came again on another occasion?—Yes.

Mr. Kong Sing wrote you on the 5th January?—Yes.

You stated that if you had known the name of the bank you could have traced the draft?—Yes.

[Put it to you, Sir, that the name of the bank which appeared in the letter of credit you received?—Yes.

So that when Man Lee Chan came to you you had the necessary information?—Yes.

And it was too much trouble for you to go and look up the matter?—Not too much trouble; too much work.

Same thing. Was it physically impossible for you to look up the matter?—Yes.

Are there no other clerks to do the work in the bank?—Yes.

And did one go to find the information?—Yes.

Did he find it?—No.

Why?—He could not.

Did he make a proper search?—He had his other work to do.

So there was no search made?—Yes, there was.

A proper, thorough search, I mean. Whether it was thorough or not I cannot say. I put it to you that if a large European concern had gone to you and asked you to stop payment of a draft, you would have taken more steps to protect them than you did in this case?—Certainly not.

In the ordinary course of your business of a bill endorsed "Brown, Jones and Company" were presented to you would you pay "Brown, Jones, Robinson and Company"?—No.

Do you read Chinese?—No.

So far as you know there was no endorsement on the draft?—Yes, there was.

Where?—I go by the shroff's signature.

You don't read Chinese?—I do not.

So that what's written at the back of the draft, you don't know?—I trust the shroff.

Who is under a guarantee?—Yes.

Is it not a fact that the guarantee of the shroff or the comptroller leads to relaxation, lack of vigilance and diligence in all banks?—No.

The witness was then excused, and the head shroff called, and his examination was still proceeding when our report closed.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. E. Pollock, K., instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, defended.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER'S DILEMMA.

ACCUSED OF LARCENY FROM WOMAN.

Morris Bob, a Russian Jew, who calls himself a commercial traveller, and who was convicted a week ago for the larceny by bailie of \$500 belonging to a woman named Dorabjee, has been granted a re-hearing. At the time the Russian was convicted the story was told that he received \$500 from the Jackson woman to purchase a draft and it was alleged that he converted the money to his own use.

The re-hearing took place before Mr. J. H. Kemp in the Police Court, last Wednesday morning, when the convicted man was called to the stand to give evidence on his own behalf. The defendant stated he was now doing a business of importation. He knew Dorabjee for a couple of months. He first met her in Hongkong.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner (for the defence)—Did you meet her in Shanghai?—No.

Did she give money to buy a draft?—Nothing of the kind.

So that what she stated last time is false?—False.

Have you had money transactions with her?—No.

Do you owe her money?—No. She owes me \$40 for shoes and kimono. I brought her. She can be found in her room at the hotel.

Was \$500 paid by you or anyone else for her?—No.

You haven't \$500?—No. All I have is \$175. Is it true that the prosecutrix, Dorabjee, lent you \$500?—Nothing of the kind.

She made no loan whatever?—No.

The Court—Did she hand you any money on the 13th March?—No. She told me to get her a doctor and I did so. I also paid for the medicine before I left for Singapore.

When did you leave here?—On 13th March. On what steamer?—Nera.

And of course, you returned on the Tonkin?—Yes.

When were you arrested?—On 2nd April.

What are you? What is your occupation?—Commercial traveller.

Are you often in the East?—Two years between this and Shanghai.

Why did you not, when you were asked at the last hearing why you had to say, deny the fact of the prosecutrix?—I had no solicitor. All she said at the time was false.

The evidence of several other women of the underworld was taken and all denied that the prosecutrix gave defendant the money to buy a draft. One went so far as to remark that the \$500 was given defendant as a present. Another said it was a loan. This witness, during the adjournment, asked prosecutrix, "How was it you gave Morris \$500 to make a draft?" She stated that the reply she received was that he was a "thinking of something else."

At this stage Mr. Gardiner intimated that he intended to subpoena more witnesses, and the case was continued to Friday. Bail was refused.

A BOGUS EXCISEMAN.

ACCUSED OF VICTIMIZING TWO COUNTRYMEN.

Whether the story which was told by a number of witnesses in the Police Court, this morning, during the hearing of a larceny charge against a man named Wong Shui Loo, is true or not remains to be seen.

Wong was formerly an exciseman of the Opium Farmer. To-day he is out of employment. Yesterday afternoon, it was about five o'clock, he stopped two countrymen in Connaught Road. Representing himself to be an excise officer, Wong gave the two new arrivals to understand that he suspected them of being in possession of illicit opium, and that he wanted to search them. The men submitted quietly. Wong, so it was stated, examined their pockets, their bundles, and their purses, and not finding anything sent the men away. Half an hour afterwards, when the men had reached their lodgings, they examined their purses and to their astonishment discovered a shortage in their cash: one man was missing \$10 and the other forty cents. They reported the matter at the office of the Opium Farmer, but without result. They could not recognize any of the excise officers brought together for identification the proper man.

While this work was in progress another exciseman came in and, as a matter of news, said that he had seen Wong Shui Loo in a tea-house having refreshment, and appeared to be rather shaky. Wong was located in a house at West Point, and identified by the farmers, Inspector Gornley charged him with the larceny of \$50 this morning, and the case was adjourned in order to take further evidence.

A RUNNER'S GRIEVANCE.

ACTION AGAINST KING EDWARD HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

A very interesting action came on before Mr. Justice Gompertz in the Supreme Court last Wednesday, when William Henry Brown, formerly a runner for the King Edward Hotel, brought an action against Dorabjee and Company to recover the sum of \$254.75—being as to \$60 for salary for the month of March, \$39.75 commission and \$165 damages for alleged wrongful dismissal, which were accounted for as appended:—One month's salary to lieu of notice, \$60; for commission earned during the period of one month, \$39.75; one month's board and lodging, \$75.

Messrs. Dorabjee and Company, proprietors of the King Edward Hotel, entered a counter-claim for \$10, as follows:—Half the cost of a telegram to Swatow and reply, in connection with a box lost on the floor, \$10; \$10 to Shanghai and reply, \$5.75; to Manila and reply, \$3; lawyer's fees in connection with the lost box, \$15.50; chits for refreshments in the hotel, \$88; cash advanced, \$30; for the use and occupation of a room by a friend for seven days at \$5 per day, \$35—less \$99.15 paid on account.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. W. C. Daniel, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, defended.

The main features of the case were that on the 30th March the defendants wrote to the plaintiff through their solicitors, Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, giving him notice of instant dismissal, and in that letter they presented an account, which they alleged was the proper account between the plaintiff and the defendants. In that account the defendants admitted owing plaintiff his salary and commission for March, and as against that they alleged certain amounts which were entered in the counter-claim.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing then gave reasons for the counter-claim. He said that about three months ago a passenger arrived by the Asia and brought with him his luggage. On the way from the steamer to the King Edward Hotel the luggage was in the ordinary way in the custody of the plaintiff, who alleged that the passenger's luggage was deposited in the hall of the hotel. On the arrival of the passenger at the hotel it was discovered that one particular item of his luggage was missing. He reported the matter to the defendants, who made inquiries and went to a lot of expense, including lawyer's fees—this without the knowledge and consent of the plaintiff. After these expenses had been incurred the item of luggage was found at the Astor House Hotel. The trunk was taken there by mistake by a lady. In the meantime the owner of the trunk had claimed \$65 for his property, which was paid by the defendants, but on the recovery of the trunk this money was returned.

The Court—That probably was why the lawyer was consulted.

Mr. Kong Sing did not think so. As regarded the \$88 for refreshments he stated that he had a special defence to raise as to that, while the item for hotel expenses for his friend was irregular. A room had been set apart for plaintiff and he had a perfect right to house a friend in his own room.

The plaintiff was called and stated that he did not think that there was anything in the counter-claim.

You know that Rule 1 does not allow any wine to be taken in the hotel during working hours?—Yes.

In February last, I think your chits came to \$38, mostly for drinks?—Not all for drinks.

Did you often had drinks in the hotel during work hours?—Yes.

So you broke Rule 1?—They accepted my chits.

weren't your drinks stopped?—Yes.

Do you know by Rule 9 if you break any of the rules you are liable to instant dismissal?—Yes.

The hotel launch is solely for the use of the hotel passengers?—Yes.

Didn't you use it for your own purpose?—I gave friends a lift now and again.

Round the harbour for a trip. And using your employer's coal?—Not their coal, but the coxswain's. He was paid \$50 a month to run the launch.

Did you ever have women on the launch?—Yes.

Women of loose character?—What "loose?" Women from up the street?—Yes. They were in the hotel, or at least one of them.

Does that reflect any credit on the hotel to have such women in their launch?—I very often took them off ships.

You once took a friend to the bulk Hygiea?—Yes.

And then took a trip to West Point?—Yes.

So it appears that you made use of the launch whenever you liked for your own purpose?—No, I did not.

Regarding the claim for \$65 made by the passenger for his lost trunk, witness was asked by Mr. Gee, the manager, to sign a paper promising to pay the hotel \$25 a month. He did so to save his job. When the box was recovered and the \$65 returned, witness did not get back the paper he had signed. (Laughter.)

Mr. Daniel explained that his clients had made a search for the paper, but could not find it. They were not suing on the paper.

After it was discovered that witness had kept a man in his room for a week there was considerable trouble in the hotel. Mr. Dorabjee disapproved of the matter, but if witness had asked permission first it would have been granted. He was willing to continue with the hotel.

Mr. Kong Sing—You said when you were not on the launch you looked after the office?—Yes.

Didn't Mr. Dorabjee know you were drinking in the hotel?—Yes, I have been drinking in the hotel when he passed by.

Now, why were your chits stopped?—Because, I believe, I signed too many.

Mr. Kong Sing remarked that Mr. Dorabjee knew that

Printed and Published by JOSE PEDRO BRAGA for the Hongkong Telegraph Company, Limited, at the Printing Office of the Company, No. 7, The Arcade, in the City of Victoria, Hongkong.